# 24-cv-111 COMMONWEALTHOF WASSAGHUSETTE Page 1 of 141 SUFFOLK COUNTY CIVIL **Docket Report**

# 2484CV00531 Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated vs. Lens.com

CASE TYPE: Business Litigation

**ACTION CODE: BH2** 

**DESCRIPTION:** Complex Unfair Trade Practices

CASE DISPOSITION DATE:04/26/2024

CASE DISPOSITION:

Transferred to another Court

**CASE JUDGE:** 

FILE DATE:

02/23/2024

CASE TRACK:

B - Special Track (BLS)

CASE STATUS:

Closed

STATUS DATE:

04/26/2024

CASE SESSION:

**Business Litigation 2** 

#### **PARTIES**

**Plaintiff** 

Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all

others similarly situated

Attorney

Andrew J Garcia

Phillips and Garcia, PC Phillips and Garcia, PC

13 Ventura Drive

North Dartmouth, MA 02747 Work Phone (508) 998-0800 Added Date: 02/23/2024

**Attorney** 

561916

Carlin John Phillips Phillips and Garcia, PC Phillips and Garcia, PC 13 Ventura Drive Dartmouth, MA 02747 Work Phone (508) 998-0800 Added Date: 02/23/2024

Attorney

647642

559084

Theodore Joel Folkman Rubin and Rudman LLP Rubin and Rudman LLP

53 State St

Boston, MA 02109

Work Phone (617) 330-7000 Added Date: 04/26/2024

Defendant Lens.com

Printed: 04/26/2024 10:39 am

Case No: 2484CV00531

Page: 1



FINANCIAL DETAILS					
Date	Fees/Fines/Costs/Charge	Assessed	Paid	Dismissed	Balance
02/23/2024	Fee for Blank Summons or Writ (except Writ of Habeas Corpus) MGL 262 sec 4b Receipt: 42771 Date: 02/26/2024	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
02/26/2024	Civil Filing Fee (per Plaintiff) Receipt: 42771 Date: 02/26/2024	240.00	240.00	0.00	0.00
02/26/2024	Civil Security Fee (G.L. c. 262, § 4A) Receipt: 42771 Date: 02/26/2024	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
02/26/2024	Civil Surcharge (G.L. c. 262, § 4C) Receipt: 42771 Date: 02/26/2024	15.00	15.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	280.00	280.00	0.00	0.00

THEREBY ATTEST AND CERTIFY ON U179174 , THAT THE FOREGOING DOCUMENT IS A FULL. TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN MY OFFICE, AND IN MY LEGAL CUSTODY

John E. Powers, III
Acting Clerk Magistrate
SUFFOLK SUPERIOR CIVIL COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

ASSISTANT CLEEK

# Case-124-cv-111 COMMONWEALTH OF MASS SUFFOLK COUNTY O Docket Report

MBSNVEALTHOR MASSACHUSETIZA	Page 3 of 141
SUFFOLK COUNTY CIVIL	
Docket Report	

		INFORMATIONAL DOCKET ENTRIES	
Date	Ref	Description	Judge
02/23/2024	1	Complaint electronically filed.	
02/23/2024	2	Civil action cover sheet filed.	
02/23/2024	~	Attorney appearance On this date Carlin John Phillips, Esq. added for Plaintiff Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated	
02/23/2024	22	Attorney appearance On this date Andrew J Garcia, Esq. added for Plaintiff Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated	
02/26/2024		Docket Note: (1) summons sent by mail.	
~~~~	2	Applies To: Garcia, Esq., Andrew J (Attorney) on behalf of Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated (Plaintiff)	
02/26/2024	3	General correspondence regarding Notice of Acceptance into Business Litigation Session Accepted into BLS2 (Dated 2/26/2024) Notice sent 2/26/2024	Salinger
03/13/2024		The following form was generated:	
		Notice to Appear - BLS Sent On: 03/13/2024 11:45:29	
04/02/2024	4	Service Returned for	
		Applies To: Lens.com (Defendant)	
04/04/2024	5	Plaintiff Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated's Assented to Motion for Extension Of Time To Respond To The Complaint	
04/09/2024		Endorsement on Motion for extension of time to respond to the complaint (#5.0): ALLOWED Allowed to May 17, 2024. (dated 4/8/2024) Notice sent 4/9/24	Salinger
04/23/2024		The following form was generated:	
		Notice to Appear - BLS Sent On: 04/23/2024 14:44:28	
04/25/2024	6	Defendant Lens.com's Notice of Removal	
		(U.S. Dist. #24cv-11110)	
04/26/2024		Attorney appearance On this date Theodore Joel Folkman, Esq. added for Defendant Lens.com	
04/26/2024		REMOVED to the U.S. District Court Of Massachusetts	



04/26/2024

Case transferred to another court.

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, SS	SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION		
ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated	) ) CIVIL ACTION NO. )		
Plaintiff	) kg )		
v.	)		
LENS.COM, INC.	)		
Defendant	) )		

# **CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, brings this Class Action Complaint for damages for unfair and deceptive sales practices committed by Defendant, Lens.com, Inc.

# <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

- 1. This is a consumer class action case involving an undisclosed junk fee that Lens.com charges as part of online contact lens orders. More particularly, Lens.com adds an undisclosed and non-itemized "processing charge" to contact lens orders after customers have already filled out the details of their contact lens orders. Lens.com has received numerous complaints regarding this undisclosed charge.
- 2. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class of consumers in Massachusetts who have paid an undisclosed processing or handling charge on their contact lens order. Given the amount of the

fees at issue and given the number of potential consumers impacted, a class action is the most judicially efficient manner of adjudicating this dispute.

### PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. Plaintiff, Angela Gonneville ("Plaintiff" or "Ms. Gonneville"), is an individual who resides in Massachusetts.
- 4. Defendant, Lens.com, Inc. ("Lens.com" or "Defendant"), is a Nevada corporation with its principal place of business in the State of Missouri.
- 5. The Court has original jurisdiction over the civil claims alleged in Plaintiff's Complaint pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 212 § 4.
- 6. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Lens.com pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 223 § 3 because Lens.com conducts significant business in Massachusetts, namely through the marketing, advertising, selling and delivery of contacts lens products in Massachusetts to consumers such as Plaintiff.
- 7. Likewise, venue is proper here as the defendant markets, advertises, sells and delivers contacts lens products to Massachusetts consumers in this county.

## **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

#### The Business of Lens.com

- 8. Lens.com is an online seller of contact lenses and claims that it provides consumers "the best way to buy contact lenses better than your eye doctor, better than big box, better than other websites." Lens.com further claims that it offers the lowest prices of any contact lens seller online or in-store and that most orders ship within 24 hours.
- 9. Lens.com markets its contact lenses as having "Year Round *Unbeatable* Prices."

  On its website it states that it has delivered over 691 million contact lenses. It further touts that,

"With over 35 Million contact lenses in stock, we immediately fill your order with your exact prescription."

shipping cost?", Lens.com states: "At Lens.com we don't bury the cost of shipping in every box we sell. We are completely transparent and let you decide what's best for you. We offer you reliable shipping at extremely competitive prices/rates. You will be able to select the best method for your personal needs at checkout." It then includes a chart of shipping costs within the United States, Canada and Internationally. Nowhere under its description of shipping costs is there mention of a "processing" or "handling" fee of any kind. A search of the words "Processing Fee" on Lens.com's website yields no information.

#### The Proliferation of Junk Fees in Online Consumer Transactions

- 11. Retailers, like Lens.com, are increasingly charging consumers "junk fees" in online transactions to increase profits. "Junk Fees" are defined by the Federal Trade Commission as "unnecessary, unavoidable, or surprise charges that inflate costs while adding little to no value." The FTC notes that "[c]onsumers can get hit with junk fees at any stage of the purchase or payment process. Companies often harvest junk fees by imposing them on captive consumers or by deploying digital dark patterns and other tricks to hide or mask them." https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2022/10/federal-trade-commission-explores-rule-cracking-down-junk-fees.
- 12. Common junk fees are convenience fees, processing fees, resort fees, service fees and overdraft fees. The White House recently issued a junk fee guide for the states noting how junk fees have overrun the American economy and are "often not disclosed upfront and only revealed after a consumer has decided to buy something, obscure true prices and dilute the forces

of market competition that are the bedrock of the U.S. economy." https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/WH-Junk-Fees-Guide-for-States.pdf

#### Lens.com's Sales Practices and Junk Fees

- 13. Lens.com's marketing materials state that "we don't bury the cost of shipping in every box we sell. We are completely transparent and let you decide what's best for you. We offer you reliable shipping at extremely competitive prices/rates. You will be able to select the best method for your personal needs at checkout."
- 14. Despite these claims, Lens.com packs a junk fee into its transactions which it describes after the point of purchase as a "processing fee." This processing fee is separate from its shipping fee, which in the Plaintiff's case was either free or \$7.95.
- 15. Lens.com fails to disclose or itemize its processing fee during online transactions and inflates the total transaction price by the amount of the hidden processing fee at the end of the transaction when a consumer's credit card is being processed. These hidden fees add to the total product price but are not disclosed at any point in the cycle of the transaction, in marketing materials, frequently asked questions on Lens.com's website or in product pricing disclosures.
- 16. In some transactions, Lens.com never discloses the existence or amount of its processing fee. In other transactions the hidden fees are only disclosed on a packing slip provided to the consumer when the product is delivered. In those circumstances, the hidden fees are listed as "PROCESSING" or as "Shipping & Handling" fees.
- 17. The amount of the processing fee charged by Lens.com varies greatly and from transaction to transaction. The Plaintiff's processing fees were \$55.97, \$22.57 and \$5.21.
- 18. Numerous online complaints made by Lens.com customers describe processing fees that are over \$100. The below listed consumer complaints made to Complaints Board, an

online consumer complaint center, describe Lens.com's surprise processing fee. Each consumer referenced below contacted the Defendant's customer service line to complain about the processing fee and, accordingly, these complaints constitute notice and knowledge to the Defendant of the unfair and deceptive nature of their processing and other fees. The online complaints state in relevant part:

# **Processing Fees**

Docket Number

Contact lenses were ordered for my child over the phone in February of 2021. The bill received did not break out the \$103 processing fee for an order of \$107 in contacts. The processing fee did not include shipping fees. This was discovered when trying to tally the order for reimbursement by the child's father months later and the lens cost did not add up to the total. When contacting the company the only adjustment offered was a \$7.95 shipping credit. The price of contacts was severely misrepresented due to the arbitrary and, per customer service, ever changing "processing fees". (Chobbs 1411 of US; August 27, 2021)

# Lens.com review: Astronomical processing fee for contact lens order.

Customer since 2014... Last order placed 12/26/2020 and was charged processing fee of \$110.38... I immediately contacted the company and was simply told "that was their processing fee"... I escalated the issue as I have never paid more than \$35.96 for a processing fee (last order was 8/2020 and fee was \$29.54)... Continued to reach out via email and was finally told on Jan 3rd that my complaint was escalated to leadership... I reached out again on Jan 11, 12 and now this morning and have never been contacted back... I am now in the process of disputing charge with the credit card company... I have included the processing fees paid so you can see for yourself the ridiculous amount charged this last order:

4-2014 \$18.16 3-2015 \$26.47 8-2015 \$26.11 9-2016 \$35.96 9-2017 \$25.51 9-2018 \$25.99 12-2019 \$27.51 8-2020 \$29.54 12-2020 \$110.38

I understand I owe for the contacts but I refuse to pay that amount for processing! (juhnklo of US; January 15, 2021)

# Extraordinarily high processing fee.

On July 7, 2023, I submitted an order and paid \$220 for 4 boxes of contacts. A bargain so I thought, because I would also get a \$75 rebate. Again, so I thought. Imagine my surprise when I see I was charged \$330 for my order due to a huge \$120 processing fee. Apparently the 'submit order' button appears before the processing fee (which requires you to scroll down past the submit order so you don't see the additional fee.) It doesn't appear on the consumers invoice on their site, but somehow when you questions it, the Customer service people are able to produce an invoice showing the fee. They claim it is automatically added 'by the system' and they cannot refund any portion of it. The processing fee was more than 50% of my total purchase and in reading the complaints about them, they take so long to issue the \$75 rebate that the expiration date is so close or past, rendering it useless as it is a visa gift card. These complaints date back to 2014 and nothing has changed. Below is the invoice AFTER the order was submitted. (K. Lennon, Rochdale, MA; July 18, 2023)

# Lens.com added 85% to my order in "tax & fees"

intended to purchase 4 boxes of contact lenses at \$31.74 per box. They advertised \$9.24 per box if I ordered 8 boxes, which would have been \$73.92, instead of \$253. 92. When I clicked "checkout" the total was\$485.79! They added \$213.92 in "tax & fees", which is an additional 85%.

I clicked the "chat 24/7" line and the rep did everything possible to avoid explaining what "fees" were, since tax would be no more than \$22 in any state. I had to ask SIX TIMES, but he finally was forced to admit that "fees" were: "This includes calling your doctor on your behalf, doctor's fees since we need to verify your prescription, and handling and processing your order. If the customer has a valid prescription, there is no need to call the doctor. Tax would have been \$20 so the "rebate" which was applied to the order, tax and their undisclosed "fees" added 85% to the cost of the order. I told them that was fraud and they lost my business. (Gail Reznik of US; March 26, 2023)

# Hidden taxes and fees

When I went to re-order my contacts at Lens.com I noticed advertised pricing and total cost didn't add up. I went to order my 8 boxes so I would get the \$160 RB. Listed at \$42.79 per box before RB (22.79 after RB) times the required 8 boxes = 342.32 (\$182.32 after RB)plus \$9.95 Shipping. This should make for a grand total of \$352.27( before RB). At check out total came up as \$566.19! Call Lens.com, spoke with a rep. I was told to go back to the shipping page, there they show a "Taxes & fees" of 213.92! Contacts are NOT taxable! They are a rip off company with miss leading and Illegal sales tactics. I've used them several times in the past and had not been charged these taxes & fees, I will no longer purchase from them and will

tell others of my bad experience. (Sharon McD of Levittown, US; March 1, 2023.

# Lens.com review: Deceptive fees and rebate hurdles

Customer since 2014, but noticed a huge disparity in cost when initiating my most recent order. Without a rebate, they show \$72.24 per 90-lens box of 1-day lenses. Buy 8 boxes and the price (after rebate) is shown as \$35.99 and rebate as \$290. Great. The next screen in the checkout asks you to confirm where you want the boxes sent with a 'continue' button below it. When you accidentally scroll below that, you see a blowout of the order, with a whopping \$241.92 in taxes and fees that "are compensation for servicing your order". That's the only place they show the added taxes/fees. If you click 'continue' and approve where to send the boxes, you miss that, because the final checkout screen never shows that added charge in its summary of your order. ... This is deceptive. (eyecu of Seattle, US; January 12, 2023)

### Ridiculous fee added without my knowledge

I just learned that they added a \$50 fee for for processing on an \$80 order. And the customer rep could not explain what the processing fee was for. What a ripoff! (thomassu of Centerville, US; December 5, 2022)

19. These consumer complaints describe in detail the repeated notice that Lens.com has received from consumers about its hidden processing fees and demonstrate its continued use of unfair and deceptive acts and practices to create revenue from junk fees.

#### Plaintiff's Transactions

- 20. Plaintiff's transactions with Lens.com highlight the deceptive nature of Lens.com's business practices. In August 2019, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$77.29 with free shipping. The subtotal that was charged to Plaintiff, however, was \$82.50, which included a \$5.21 undisclosed processing charge. The "processing fee" was only disclosed on the packing form delivered with the contact lenses.
- 21. Likewise, in May 2020, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$141.48 with free shipping. The subtotal that was charged to Plaintiff, however, was

\$164.05, which thus included a \$22.57 undisclosed processing charge. The packing form received when the contact lenses were delivered indicated a charge of \$30.52 for "shipping & Handling."

- 22. Similarly, in April 2021, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses with a total price of \$55.97 and free shipping. However, the subtotal charged to Plaintiff was \$111.97 and thus included an undisclosed processing charge of \$55.97. The one-page packing form received when the contact lenses were delivered did not itemize the transaction charges or disclose the amount of the processing fee.
- 23. Plaintiff ultimately complained to Lens.com about the processing charges and was told that the processing fee used to be disclosed on the website but had been removed, there had been recent changes to the website but the fee was still not disclosed, the failure to disclose the processing fee has been reported to IT by several other agents and that Lens.com was trying to get that back up on the website.

# **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

24. Pursuant to Massachusetts Rule of Civil Procedure 23, Plaintiff brings this class action individually and on behalf of the following proposed class of persons, initially defined as:

All consumers who purchased contact lenses in Massachusetts and were charged a processing or handling fee with their contact lens order in the six years preceding the filing of this Complaint. (hereinafter the "Class").

The Class does not include Defendant; any affiliate, parent or subsidiary of Defendant; any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest; any officer, director or employee of Defendant; any successor or assign of Defendant; Plaintiff's counsel or anyone employed by Plaintiff's counsel in this action and their immediate families; any judge to whom this case is assigned and any member

of his/her immediate family and staff; governmental entities; or individuals who have personal injury claims as a result of conduct and/or defects alleged herein.

25. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend or supplement the Class descriptions with greater specificity or further division into subclasses or limitation to certain issues, after conducting discovery in this matter. Plaintiff also reserves the right to amend or supplement the proposed Class after conducting discovery in this matter.

### **Rule 23 Class Certification Requirements**

- 26. Numerosity of the Class The members of the Class are so numerous that their individual joinder is impracticable. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that Lens.com processed tens or hundreds of thousands of contact lens orders and included an undisclosed processing fee with those orders. Adjudication of the claims in a class action context will provide substantial benefits to the parties and the Court.
- 27. Commonality and Predominance Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over questions affecting only individual Class members, as is required by Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(2) and (b)(3). These common questions include, but are not limited to:
  - a) whether Lens.com engaged in the conduct alleged herein;
  - b) whether Defendant failed to adequately disclose a processing and/or handling fee prior to the completion of an online order for contact lenses;
  - c) whether Defendant's undisclosed processing and/or handling fee inflated the product price;
  - d) whether Defendant's processing and/or handling fees exceeded actual costs and constituted a hidden profit for Defendant;
  - e) whether Plaintiff and Class Members suffered out-of-pocket losses as a result of Defendant's actions and/or inactions alleged herein, and if so, how much;

- f) whether Plaintiff and Class Members will suffer out-of-pocket losses as a result of Defendant's alleged actions and/or inactions alleged herein, and if so, how much.
- 28. **Typicality** The claims of the representative Plaintiff are typical of the claims of each member of the Class, thus satisfying Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3). Plaintiff, like all other members of the Class, have sustained damages arising from Lens.com's violations of the laws, as alleged herein. The representative Plaintiff and the members of the Class were and are similarly or identically harmed by the same unlawful, deceptive, unfair, systematic, and pervasive pattern of misconduct engaged in by Lens.com. Plaintiff's claims arise from the same practices and course of conduct that give rise to the claims of all other members of the Class.
- 29. Adequacy The representative Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class Members and have retained counsel who are experienced and competent trial lawyers in complex litigation and class action litigation, thus satisfying Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4). There are no material conflicts between the claims of the representative Plaintiff and the members of the Class that would make class certification inappropriate. Counsel for the Class will vigorously assert the claims of all Class members.
- 30. **Declaratory or Injunctive Relief** Lens.com has acted and refused to act on grounds generally applicable to Plaintiff and Members of the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief appropriate regarding the Class as a whole. Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2).
- 31. Superiority This suit may be maintained as a class action under Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3), because a class action is superior to any other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this dispute and no unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in its management of this class action. The damages suffered by individual class members are small in comparison to the burden and expense of individually litigating each claim and based on the

complex and extensive litigation needed to address Spirit's conduct. Further, it would be virtually impossible for the Class Members to individually redress effectively the wrongs done to them. Even if Class Members themselves could afford such individual litigation, the court system could not. In addition, individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties and to the court system resulting from complex legal and factual issues of the case. Individualized litigation also presents a potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments. By contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties; allows the hearing of claims which might otherwise go unaddressed because of the relative expense of bringing individual lawsuits; and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

32. Ascertainability: Upon information and belief, the precise number of Class Members may be ascertained from Lens.com's records. Plaintiff contemplates the eventual issuance of notice to the proposed Class members setting forth the nature of the instant action. Upon information and belief, Class members may be notified of this action by recognized, Court approved notice dissemination methods, which may include U.S. mail, electronic mail, Internet postings, social media, and published notices, in addition to Lens.com's own business records.

# COUNT I BREACH OF CONTRACT

- 33. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 34. Plaintiff's and other Class members' purchase of contact lenses constituted a contract between them and Lens.com, namely through the terms and conditions on the Lens.com

site. The terms and conditions do not mention a processing charge for online orders of contact lenses.

- 35. Plaintiff and the Class Members performed all requirements under their agreements with Lens.com, namely the payment of the amount charged by Lens.com for the order.
- 36. Lens.com breached its agreement with Plaintiff and the Class Members when it charged a hidden processing fee in connection with the contact lens orders.
- 37. Plaintiff and members of the Class have suffered an injury through the payment of the processing fee.
- 38. Plaintiff and Class members are therefore entitled to all incidental, consequential, and indirect damages resulting from Lens.com's breach of contract. Lens.com's breach caused damages to Plaintiff and the Class Members.
- 39. Plaintiff and the Class Members seek to recover all permitted damages and their attorneys' fees caused by Defendant's breach.

# COUNT II BREACH OF THE DUTY OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING

- 40. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 41. The Defendant had an obligation to exercise of duty of good faith and fair dealing when transacting business with Plaintiff and the Class.
- 42. The Plaintiff and the Class made purchases at Lens.com's online website. Lens.com advertised, disclosed and charged a specific price for each contact lens purchase. It claimed that it had the lowest contact lens prices.

- 43. However, the Defendant, as matter a pattern and practice, assessed hidden junk fees to consumer's transaction which it labeled as processing and/or handling fees. These fees were not described on the Defendant's website or as part of the sale.
  - 44. In addition, these junk fees varied from transaction to transaction.
- 45. The junk fees were charged to Plaintiff's credit and debit cards, thereby driving up the actual costs of their contact lens purchases.
- 46. Lens.com used these hidden fees, which do not purport to approximate actual expenses incurred, as a hidden profit center. Not including these hidden fees in the product price allowed Lens.com to falsely claim that it had the lowest prices.
- 47. Lens.com's pattern and practice of charging its consumers hidden junk fees in its transactions constituted a breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing it owed to consumers as part of the transactions.
- 48. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendant's acts and/or omissions, the Plaintiff and the Class suffered damages.

# COUNT III <u>UNJUST ENRICHMENT</u>

- 49. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 50. Plaintiff and the Class Members conferred substantial benefits on Lens.com by purchasing contact lenses and by paying processing charges to Lens.com.
- 51. Lens.com knowingly and willingly accepted and enjoyed those benefits.

  Lens.com's retention of these benefits is inequitable and would be against good conscience
- 52. As a direct and proximate cause of Lens.com's unjust enrichment, Plaintiff and the Class Members are entitled to restitution, attorneys' fees, costs and interest.

# **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, pray for a judgment against Defendant as follows:

- a. For an order certifying the Class, appointing Plaintiff as Representative of the Class, and appointing the law firm representing Plaintiff as counsel for the Class;
- b. For compensatory damages and/or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com from Plaintiff and the Class Members as a result of the Company's unlawful, unfair, deceptive and unconscionable practices described herein in an amount to be proven at trial;
- c. For compensatory damages caused by Lens.com's breach of contract with Plaintiff and the Class Members to the extent permitted by law in an amount to be proven at trial;
  - d. Both pre-and post-judgment interest on any amounts awarded;
  - e. Payment of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by law;
  - f. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

The Plaintiff requests a trial by jury on all claims.

On behalf of the Plaintiff and the Putative Class,

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive North Dartmouth, MA 02747 (508) 998-0800 (508) 998-0919 (fax) cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Plaintiff's counsel, Carlin J. Phillips, hereby certifies that a copy of this document was served via email on April 4, 2024, to all counsel of record:

Jed H. Hansen Thorpe North & Western, LLP 175 South Main Street, Suite 900 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 801-566-6633 hansen@tnw.com

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin J. Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel. (508) 998-0800; Fax (508) 998-0919 cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

HEREBY ATTEST AND CERTIFY ON U179179 THAT THE FOREGOING DOCUMENT IS A FULL. TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN MY OFFICE, AND IN MY LEGAL CUSTODY

John E. Powers, III

Acting Clerk Magistrate
SUFFOLK SUPERIOR CIVIL COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

ASSISTANT CLEBIL

CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET	DOCKET NO(5) B.L.S.	Trial Court Of Massachusetts Superior Court Department County: SUFFOLK
Angela Gonneville, indiv. similarly situated,	and on behallf of all others	DEFENDANT(S) Lens.com, Inc.
ATTORNEY, FIRM NAME, ADDRESS AND TEL Carlin J. Phillips, BBO 56 GARCIA, P.C.,13 Ventura 02747; 508-998-0800; cp	1916, PHILLIPS &	ATTORNEY (if known)
Origin Code Original Complaint BK1		
TYPE OF ACTION AND TRACK DE (B) Yes		P. TYPE OF ACTION (specify) TRACK IS THIS A JURY CASE? *
BKI Consume	r Class Action	
The following is a full and detailed st	atement of the facts on which plaintiff relie	es to determine eligibility in to The Business Litigation Session.
company that sells contact contact lens orders. More to online transactions whit numerous complaints from continued to charge consconsumers while adding I hide or mask the fees, the comparison shop based of	ct lenses at what it claims are particularly, Lens.com add ch, in the plaintiff's case, value the Plaintiff and other consumers these fees in online the title to no value and are ofte ereby inflating the purchase on price. The nature, complete	sclosed junk fees that Lens.com, an online e the lowest prices, charges as part of online s an undisclosed and non-itemized processing feer ried from \$55.97 to \$22.57 to \$5.21. Despite sumers about undisclosed fees, Lens.com ransactions. Per the FTC, junk fees inflate costs to imposed on captive consumers by using tricks to price and frustrating a consumer's ability to exity, uniformity and scope of the issue surroundir online transaction process warrants acceptance in
* A Special Tracking Order shall be cr	eated by the Presiding Justice of the Busin	ess Litigation Session at the Rule 16 Conference.

disadvantages of the various methods." Signature of Attorney of Record

DATE:

Sinc Comoree ASSISTANT CLEUR

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts County of Suffolk The Superior Court – Business Litigation Session

C	CIVIL DOCKET#:
Case:	
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Case Name	
Docket Number CIVIL DOCKET#:	
Counsel For	Date
Firm Name and Address:	
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Please complete this form and return it to:	
Assistant Clerk - BLS1  BLS1, Room 1309  3 Pemberton Square  Boston, MA 02108	Assistant Clerk - BLS2 BLS2, Room 1017 3 Pemberton Square Boston, MA 02108

# 3

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts County of Suffolk The Superior Court – Business Litigation Session

CIVIL DOCKET#: 2484CV00531-BLS2

Notice Sent 2/24/24 5.12

Case: Gonneville v. Lens.com, Inc.

# NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION

This matter has been accepted into the Suffolk Business Litigation Session. It has been assigned to BLS2.

Hereafter, as shown above, all parties must include the initials "BLS2" at the end of the docket number on all filings.

Counsel for the plaintiff(s) is hereby advised that within seven (7) days of the filing of an appearance, answer, motion or other response to the complaint by or on behalf of the defendant(s) which has been served with process within the time limitation of Mass. R. Civ. P. 4(j), or such other time as may be modified by the Court, he or she shall send notice thereof to the appropriate BLS Session Clerk at Suffolk Superior Court, Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108.

Upon receipt of such notice, the Court will issue a Notice of Initial Rule 16 Conference for purposes of meeting with all counsel. Before the Rule 16 Conference, counsel shall discuss with their clients and with opposing counsel whether the parties will participate in the BLS Project on Discovery (counsel are directed to www.mass.gov/superior-court-business-litigation-session for description of the Project). Counsel may indicate their respective client's participation by completing, filing, and serving the attached form. If by the date of the initial Rule 16 Conference, not all parties have given notice of their participation, counsel shall be prepared to discuss at that conference whether their clients will participate in the Project.

The Court requests that plaintiff's counsel serve on opposing parties a copy of this notice and the attached form.

Dated: February 26, 2024

HEREBYATTEST AND CERTIFY ON 12974, THAT THE FOREGOING DOCUMENT IS A FULL, TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN MY OFFICE, AND IN MY LEGAL CUSTODY

/s/ Kenneth W. Salinger

Kenneth W. Salinger

Justice of the Superior Court &

Administrative Justice of the Business Litigation Session

John E. Powers, III
Acting Clerk Magistrate
SUFFOLK SUPERIOR CIVIL COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

ASSISTANT CLEVER

Superior Court - Suffolk Docket Number 2484CV00531

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

Case: 2484CV00531-BLS2	Court: Suffolk Superior Civil Court	County: Job: 10757417 (2254486.		
Plaintiff / Petitioner: Angela Gonneville		Defendant / Respondent: Lens.com, Inc.		
Received by: One Legal, an InfoTrack Company		For: Phillips Garcia Law		
To be served upon: Lens.com, Inc.				

Recipient Name:

Karen Scott

Recipient Address: Business: 4730 S Fort Apache Rd Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147

Manner of Service:

Business Serve, Mar 28, 2024, 8:59 am PDT

Documents:

Summons, Class Action Complaint, Civil Action Cover Sheet, Notice of Acceptance into Business Litigation Session

(BLS2), Demand Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 93A Section 9

#### Diligence / Comments:

1) Successful Attempt: Mar 28, 2024, 8:59 am PDT at Business: 4730 S Fort Apache Rd Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147 received by Karen Scott. Age: 55-60; Ethnicity: African American; Gender: Female; Weight: 150; Height: 5'4"; Hair: Black; Eyes: Black; Other: Served registered agent authorized except Documents, Karen Scott;

#### Statement(s):

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Reggie Mitchell

03/29/2024

Registration: R-2019-12597

Date

InfoTrack US, Inc. - P000634 1400 N McDowell Blvd, Suite 300 Petaluma, CA 94954 800-938-8815

> **FEST AND CERTIFY ON** , THAT THE FOREGOING DOCUMENT IS A FULL, TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN MY OFFICE, AND IN MY LEGAL CUSTODY.

> > John E. Powers, III

Acting Clerk Magistrate

SUFFOLK SUPERIOR CIVIL COURT ENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

assistant clevil

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, SS	SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION		
ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually )	C.A. NO. 2484CV00531-BLS2		
and on behalf of all others similarly situated, ) Plaintiff, )			
v. )			
LENS.COM, INC.,			
Defendant.			

# ASSENTED TO MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO THE COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Angela Gonneville ("Plaintiff" or "Gonneville"), pursuant to Massachusetts Rule of Civil Procedure 6(b), hereby files this Stipulated Motion for Extension of Time to Respond to the above-captioned Class Action Complaint and, in support, states:

- 1. Plaintiff filed the Class Action Complaint on February 23, 2024.
- 2. Defendant was served with the Complaint on March 28, 2024, making its response due on April 17, 2024.
- The Parties have agreed to extend the deadline for Defendant to respond to the Complaint to May 17, 2024.
- 4. This agreed request for an extension of time is made in good faith and not for purposes of delay. Given the early stage of this case, no party will be prejudiced by the request.

WHEREFORE, the Parties respectfully request that the Court enter an Order extending

the deadline for Defendant to respond to Plaintiff's Complaint to May 17, 2024.

DATED: April 3, 2024.

# RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

On behalf of the Plaintiff,

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin J. Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C.

13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel. (508) 998-0800; Fax (508) 998-0919

cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

THE FOREGOING DOCUMENT IS A FULL, TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN MY OFFICE, AND IN MY LEGAL CUSTODY

John E. Powers, III
Acting Clerk Magistrate
UFFOLK SUPERIOR CIVIL COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

ASSISTANT CIBLIC

On behalf of the Defendant,

/s/ Jed H. Hansen

Jed H. Hansen Thorpe North & Western, LLP 175 South Main Street, Suite 900 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 801-566-6633 hansen@tnw.com

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on April 25, 2024, I served this document by first-class mail, postage prepaid, and email on:

Carlin Phillips
<a href="mailto:cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com">cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com</a>
Andrew J. Garcia
<a href="mailto:agarcia.gom">agarcia@phillipsgarcia.com</a>
Phillips & Garcia, P.C.

13 Ventura Drive
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

/s/ Theodore J. Folkman

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Docket Number 2484CV00531 ML

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk, ss.

Superior Court Department of the Trial Court

ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

V.

LENS.COM, INC.,

Defendant.

Civ. A. No. 2484CV00531-BLS2

# NOTICE OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Please take notice that the defendant, Lens.com, Inc., has removed this case to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts ("the District Court"). A copy of the Notice of Removal, which has been filed with the District Court, is attached to this Notice as Exhibit 1. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), this Court shall proceed no further unless and until the case is remanded.

EST AND CERTIFY ON THAT THE FOREGOING DOCUMENT IS A FULL TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN MY OFFICE, AND IN MY LEGAL CUSTODY

> John E. Powers, III Acting Clerk Magistrate SUFFOLK SUPERIOR CIVIL COURT THE TRIAL COURT

> > CLECK

Dated: April 25, 2024

3820973 1

Respectfully submitted,

LENS.COM, INC.

By its attorney:

/s/ Theodore J. Folkman

Theodore J. Folkman (BBO No. 647642) RUBIN AND RUDMAN LLP 53 State St. Boston, Mass. 02109 (617) 330-7135

tfolkman@rubinrudman.com

Date Filed 4/25/2024 12:18 Mase 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 28 of 141 Superior Court - Suffolk Docket Number 2484CV00531

# **EXHIBIT 1**

Superior Court - Suffolk
Docket Number 2484CV00531

Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1 Filed 04/25/24 Page 1 of 9

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually
and on behalf of all others similarly
situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

LENS.COM, INC.,

Defendant.

Civ. A. No.

# **DEFENDANT LENS.COM, INC.'S NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d), 1441, and 1446, Defendant Lens.com, Inc. ("Lens.com") hereby gives notice of the removal of the action captioned as *Angela Gonneville v. Lens.com*, *Inc.*, Docket No. 2484CV00531-BLS2, filed in the Suffolk Superior Court (the "State Action"), to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. The ground for removal is diversity of citizenship. In further support, Lens.com states as follows:

# PROCEEDINGS IN STATE COURT

- 1. On February 23, 2024, Plaintiff Angela Gonneville filed the removed case, Angela Gonneville v. Lens.com, Inc., Case No. 2484CV00531-BLS2, in the Suffolk Superior Court. A true and correct copy of the Class Action Complaint ("Complaint") is attached as **Exhibit A**. A true and correct copy of the Summons that issued is attached as **Exhibit B**.
- Plaintiff served Lens.com on March 28, 2024, as reflected in the Affidavit of Service, attached as Exhibit C.

- A true and correct copy of the complete record in this action in Suffolk Superior
   Court is attached as Exhibit D.
- 4. Exhibits A-D constitute all the process, pleadings, and orders that are available from the public state court record in connection with Case No. 2484CV00531-BLS2, in the Suffolk Superior Court, as of the date of the filing of this Notice of Removal.

#### NATURE OF THE REMOVED ACTION

- Plaintiff alleges that she "is an individual who resides in Massachusetts." Compl.,
   ¶ 3. On information and belief, she is domiciled in Massachusetts.
- 6. Plaintiff alleges that Lens.com "is a Nevada corporation with its principal place of business in the State of Missouri." *Id.*, ¶ 4. In fact, Lens.com is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Nevada with its principal place of business in Nevada.
- 7. Plaintiff alleges that "Lens.com packs a junk fee into its transactions which it describes after the point of purchase as a 'processing fee.'" *Id.*, ¶¶ 13–17.
- 8. Plaintiff alleges that she was personally harmed in August 2019, when she purchased three boxes contact lenses for a total price of \$82.50. *Id.*, ¶ 20. According to Plaintiff, she paid an undisclosed processing charge of \$5.21. *Id.*
- 9. Plaintiff alleges that she was harmed again in May 2020, when she purchased another three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$164.05. Id., ¶ 21. According to Plaintiff, she paid an undisclosed processing charge of \$22.57. Id.
- 10. Plaintiff alleges that she was harmed a third time in April 2021, when she purchased another three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$111.97. *Id.*, ¶ 22. According to Plaintiff, she paid an undisclosed processing charge of \$55.97. *Id.*

11. Plaintiff seeks to represent a putative class of Massachusetts consumers. Plaintiff defines her putative class as follows:

All consumers who purchased contact lenses in Massachusetts and were charged a processing or handling fee with the contact lens order in the six years preceding the filing of this Complaint. Id.,  $\P 24$ .

- 12. Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the putative class, brings claims against Lens.com for Breach of Contract (Count I), Breach of the Duty of Good Faith and Fair Dealing (Count II), and Unjust Enrichment (Count III). *Id.*, ¶¶ 33–52.
- 13. Plaintiff seeks class-wide damages, including "compensatory damages and/or or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com ... as a result of [Lens.com's] unlawful, unfair, deceptive and unconscionable practices;" and "compensatory damages caused by Lens.com's breach of contract." *Id.* at 14. Plaintiff further seeks pre- and post-judgment interests, costs, and attorneys' fees. *Id.*
- 14. Plaintiff also sent Lens.com a demand letter dated March 26, 2024 ("Demand Letter") "pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 93A Section 9," attached as **Exhibit E**. In the Demand Letter, Plaintiff accuses Lens.com of "charging hidden and inflated junk fees in online purchases of contact lenses" and states that Lens.com has "thirty days after receipt of this letter to make a reasonable written tender of settlement or be exposed to potential treble damages and attorney's fees and costs." *Id.* Plaintiff further demands that Lens.com "identify all Massachusetts consumers for the last six years who were charged a processing and/or handling fee, the date of the fee(s) and the amounts(s)" and that Lens.com "agree to reimburse all identified Massachusetts consumers three times the amount of all processing and/or handling fees paid." *Id.*

15. In accordance with the Demand Letter, Plaintiff intends to amend the Complaint to include a claim under G.L. c. 93A, § 9 and will seek "three times the amount of all processing and/or handling fees paid," as well as attorney's fees.

### REMOVAL TO THIS DISTRICT IS PROPER

- 16. The State Action can be properly removed this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a) because this Court is the United States District Court for the district embracing Suffolk County, the location where the State Action was pending.
- District Court for the District of Massachusetts, because an operative forum-selection clause requires the action be brought in Nevada. Thus, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a), Lens.com intends to move to transfer this action to the United States District Court for the District of Nevada, for two reasons. First, a nationwide class action was recently filed in Nevada and those claims overlap with the claims here. *See Franks v. Lens.com Inc.*, Case No. 2:24-cv-0724 (District of Nevada). Second, all parties to this action have consented to jurisdiction in Nevada in a forum-selection clause.

#### **REMOVAL IS TIMELY**

- 18. Plaintiff served Lens.com with a copy of the Complaint on March 28, 2024. *See* Ex. C, Affidavit of Service at 1.
- 19. Removal is timely under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b) because this Notice of Removal was filed on April 25, 2024, which is within 30 days of service of the Complaint.

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# **REMOVAL IS PROPER**

- 20. Removal is proper under the Class Action Fairness Act ("CAFA"), see 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), because this matter is a class action with minimally diverse parties, there is an aggregate amount in controversy in excess of \$5,000,000, and the number of proposed class members is more than 100.
- 21. First, the parties are at least minimally diverse. Plaintiff, who seeks to represent the class, is a citizen of Massachusetts. See Compl. ¶ 3 (alleging that Plaintiff is a resident of Massachusetts). Lens.com is not a Massachusetts citizen—it is headquartered in Nevada and incorporated under Nevada law. See Compl. ¶ 4; 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c)(1) ("[A] corporation shall be deemed to be a citizen of every State and foreign state by which it has been incorporated and of the State or foreign state where it has its principal place of business."). Because Plaintiff is a citizen of Massachusetts and Lens.com is a citizen of Nevada, the parties are at least minimally diverse. See 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2) ("The district courts shall have original jurisdiction of any civil action in which the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and is a class action in which [] any member of a class of plaintiffs is a citizen of a State different from any defendant.").
- 22. None of the CAFA exceptions to federal jurisdiction over a putative class action apply because the "primary defendant[]" or the defendant "from whom significant relief is sought"—Lens.com, the only named defendant in this action—is not a Massachusetts citizen. See 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(3)–(4).
- 23. Second, the amount in controversy requirement is met. To satisfy the amount-incontroversy requirement, a removing defendant needs to "include only a plausible allegation that

Docket Number 2484CV00531

the amount in controversy exceeds the jurisdictional threshold." Dart Cherokee Basin Operating Co. v. Owens, 574 U.S. 81, 89 (2014). "Evidence establishing the amount" is not required to be included with the notice of removal but instead is required only "when the plaintiff contests, or the court questions, the defendant's allegation." Id.

- 24. "A defendant can satisfy its burden to establish the amount in controversy by a reasonable probability by relying on the face of the complaint in the underlying case, by alleging facts in its notice of removal to support its amount in controversy allegation, or by submitting summary judgment type evidence." *Khath v. Midland Funding, LLC*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 43493, at \*13 (D. Mass. Jan. 7, 2016) (citing *Composite Co. v. Am. Int'l Grp., Inc.*, 988 F. Supp. 2d 61, 74 (D. Mass. 2013)).
- 25. To determine the amount in controversy, the Court first looks to whether plaintiff made specific damage allegations in the complaint. See Coventry Sewage Assocs. v. Dworkin Realty Co., 71 F.3d 1, 6 (1st Cir. 1995). A court will determine the amount in controversy from the face of the complaint "unless it appears or is in some way shown that the amount stated in the complaint is not claimed in good faith." Coventry Sewage, 71 F.3d at 4 (quoting Horton v. Liberty Mut. Ins. Co., 367 U.S. 348, 353 (1961)). "[W]hen a plaintiff makes a claim under a statute including a damage multiplier, a court must apply that factor in evaluating the amount in controversy." Lucas v. Ultima Framingham LLC, 973 F. Supp. 2d 98, 2013 WL 5405668, at \*3 (D. Mass. 2013) (quoting Evans v. Yum Brands, Inc., 326 F. Supp. 2d 214, 222 (D.N.H. 2004)). The amount in controversy includes statutorily authorized attorneys' fees and multipliers of damages, such as the treble damages provision in Chapter 93A. See, e.g., Crandall v. Travelers Personal Sec. Ins. Co., 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 12106, at \*2 (D. Mass. Jan. 18, 2024); Santos v.

Docket Number 2484CV00531

Preferred Mut. Ins. Co., 21 F. Supp. 3d 111, 116 n.2 (D. Mass. 2014); Williams v. Litton Loan Servicing, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 90689, at \*5 (D. Mass. Aug. 15, 2011).

- 26. Here, Plaintiff seeks "compensatory damages and/or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com from Plaintiff and the Class Members ... in an amount to be proven at trial." Compl. at 14. While Lens.com disputes Plaintiff's class definition, Plaintiff alleges that the class members include "[a]ll consumers who purchased contact lenses in Massachusetts and were charged a processing or handling fee with the contact lens order in the six years preceding the filing of this Complaint." *Id.*, ¶ 24. From 2018 to 2023, Lens.com estimates that its total sales in Massachusetts were approximately \$21,200,000. Thus, the "compensatory damages and/or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com from Plaintiff and the Class Members" exceeds the \$5 million threshold.
- 27. Plaintiff also seeks "compensatory damages caused by Lens.com's breach of contract." *Id.* at 14.
  - 28. Plaintiff also seeks "pre- and post-judgment interest." Compl. at 14.
- 29. Plaintiff also seeks "reasonable attorney' fees and costs." Compl. at 14. A court may consider potential attorney's fees as part of the amount-in-controversy calculation when "a statute mandates or allows the payment of such fees." *Dep't of Rec. & Sports of P.R. v. World Boxing Ass'n*, 942 F.2d 84, 89 (1st Cir. 1991).
- 30. Taken as a whole, the demands of the Complaint thus plausibly exceed the \$5 million threshold for federal jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d). *Dart*, 574 U.S. at 89.
- 31. In addition to these restitution and damages claims, Plaintiff also served a Demand Letter with its complaint indicting that Plaintiff intends to amend the Complaint to include a claim

under G.L. c. 93A, § 9. While these causes of action are not yet part of the complaint, these claims will also add to the damages claimed in this matter. The demand letter seeks "three times the amount of all processing and/or handling fees paid." From 2018 to 2023, Lens.com estimates that Massachusetts consumers paid approximately \$3,500,000 in processing fees. Three times the amount of all processing and or handling fees paid is approximately \$10,500,000. This alone would also satisfy the \$5 million threshold.

- 32. Third, because Lens.com is a well-established company that sells products to consumers across the country, the number of proposed class members is greater than 100. For example, based on the current class allegation in the complaint, Lens.com estimates that in 2023 alone, it sold products to over 7,000 customers in Massachusetts.
- 33. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), Lens.com will serve written notice of removal of this case on Plaintiff's counsel by first-class mail and email at the following addresses:

Carlin Phillips
<a href="mailto:cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com">cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com</a>
Andrew J. Garcia
<a href="mailto:agarcia.gom">agarcia@phillipsgarcia.com</a>
Phillips & Garcia, P.C.

13 Ventura Drive
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

- 34. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1446(d), Lens.com will promptly file a notice of filing of notice of removal with the Clerk of the Suffolk Superior Court.
- 35. The recitation of Plaintiff's allegation in this Notice of Removal is not a concession that Plaintiff's allegations or legal theories have merit. Lens.com reserves the right to assert all applicable defenses in this matter and denies that Plaintiff is entitled to any relief. By removing this matter, Lens.com does not waive and reserves any rights it may have, including,

without limitation, all available arguments and affirmative defenses. Lens.com does not concede that Plaintiff is entitled to any recovery whatsoever.

#### CONCLUSION

36. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d), 1441 and 1446, Lens.com hereby removes the above-captioned action from the Suffolk Superior Court to the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

LENS.COM, INC.

By its attorneys:

/s/ Theodore J. Folkman

Theodore J. Folkman (BBO No. 647642) RUBIN AND RUDMAN LLP 53 State St. Boston, Mass. 02109 (617) 330-7135 tfolkman@rubinrudman.com

Mark Bettilyon (pro hac vice forthcoming)
Jed Hansen (pro hac vice forthcoming)
THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, LLP
The Walker Center
175 S. Main Street, Suite 900
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
(801) 566-6633
mark.bettilyon@tnw.com

Dated: April 25, 2024

Docket Number 2484CV00531

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, SS	SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION
ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated	) ) CIVIL ACTION NO. )
Plaintiff	) kg )
v.	)
LENS.COM, INC.	)
Defendant	) ) )

# **CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, brings this Class Action Complaint for damages for unfair and deceptive sales practices committed by Defendant, Lens.com, Inc.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- 1. This is a consumer class action case involving an undisclosed junk fee that Lens.com charges as part of online contact lens orders. More particularly, Lens.com adds an undisclosed and non-itemized "processing charge" to contact lens orders after customers have already filled out the details of their contact lens orders. Lens.com has received numerous complaints regarding this undisclosed charge.
- 2. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class of consumers in Massachusetts who have paid an undisclosed processing or handling charge on their contact lens order. Given the amount of the

Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1-1 Filed 04/25/24 Page 2 of 14

fees at issue and given the number of potential consumers impacted, a class action is the most judicially efficient manner of adjudicating this dispute.

### PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. Plaintiff, Angela Gonneville ("Plaintiff" or "Ms. Gonneville"), is an individual who resides in Massachusetts.
- 4. Defendant, Lens.com, Inc. ("Lens.com" or "Defendant"), is a Nevada corporation with its principal place of business in the State of Missouri.
- 5. The Court has original jurisdiction over the civil claims alleged in Plaintiff's Complaint pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 212 § 4.
- 6. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Lens.com pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 223 § 3 because Lens.com conducts significant business in Massachusetts, namely through the marketing, advertising, selling and delivery of contacts lens products in Massachusetts to consumers such as Plaintiff.
- 7. Likewise, venue is proper here as the defendant markets, advertises, sells and delivers contacts lens products to Massachusetts consumers in this county.

#### **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

#### The Business of Lens.com

- 8. Lens.com is an online seller of contact lenses and claims that it provides consumers "the best way to buy contact lenses better than your eye doctor, better than big box, better than other websites." Lens.com further claims that it offers the lowest prices of any contact lens seller online or in-store and that most orders ship within 24 hours.
- 9. Lens.com markets its contact lenses as having "Year Round *Unbeatable* Prices."

  On its website it states that it has delivered over 691 million contact lenses. It further touts that,

"With over 35 Million contact lenses in stock, we immediately fill your order with your exact prescription."

10. In a FAQ (frequently asked question) on its website entitled, "How much does shipping cost?", Lens.com states: "At Lens.com we don't bury the cost of shipping in every box we sell. We are completely transparent and let you decide what's best for you. We offer you reliable shipping at extremely competitive prices/rates. You will be able to select the best method for your personal needs at checkout." It then includes a chart of shipping costs within the United States, Canada and Internationally. Nowhere under its description of shipping costs is there mention of a "processing" or "handling" fee of any kind. A search of the words "Processing Fee" on Lens.com's website yields no information.

# The Proliferation of Junk Fees in Online Consumer Transactions

- 11. Retailers, like Lens.com, are increasingly charging consumers "junk fees" in online transactions to increase profits. "Junk Fees" are defined by the Federal Trade Commission as "unnecessary, unavoidable, or surprise charges that inflate costs while adding little to no value." The FTC notes that "[c]onsumers can get hit with junk fees at any stage of the purchase or payment process. Companies often harvest junk fees by imposing them on captive consumers or by deploying digital dark patterns and other tricks to hide or mask them." https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2022/10/federal-trade-commission-explores-rule-cracking-down-junk-fees.
- 12. Common junk fees are convenience fees, processing fees, resort fees, service fees and overdraft fees. The White House recently issued a junk fee guide for the states noting how junk fees have overrun the American economy and are "often not disclosed upfront and only revealed after a consumer has decided to buy something, obscure true prices and dilute the forces

Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1-1 Filed 04/25/24 Page 4 of 14

of market competition that the bedrock of the U.S. economy." are https://www.whitchouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/WH-Junk-Fees-Guide-for-States.pdf

# Lens.com's Sales Practices and Junk Fees

- 13. Lens.com's marketing materials state that "we don't bury the cost of shipping in every box we sell. We are completely transparent and let you decide what's best for you. We offer you reliable shipping at extremely competitive prices/rates. You will be able to select the best method for your personal needs at checkout."
- 14. Despite these claims, Lens.com packs a junk fee into its transactions which it describes after the point of purchase as a "processing fee." This processing fee is separate from its shipping fee, which in the Plaintiff's case was either free or \$7.95.
- 15. Lens.com fails to disclose or itemize its processing fee during online transactions and inflates the total transaction price by the amount of the hidden processing fee at the end of the transaction when a consumer's credit card is being processed. These hidden fees add to the total product price but are not disclosed at any point in the cycle of the transaction, in marketing materials, frequently asked questions on Lens.com's website or in product pricing disclosures.
- 16. In some transactions, Lens.com never discloses the existence or amount of its processing fee. In other transactions the hidden fees are only disclosed on a packing slip provided to the consumer when the product is delivered. In those circumstances, the hidden fees are listed as "PROCESSING" or as "Shipping & Handling" fees.
- 17. The amount of the processing fee charged by Lens.com varies greatly and from transaction to transaction. The Plaintiff's processing fees were \$55.97, \$22.57 and \$5.21.
- 18. Numerous online complaints made by Lens.com customers describe processing fees that are over \$100. The below listed consumer complaints made to Complaints Board, an

online consumer complaint center, describe Lens.com's surprise processing fee. Each consumer referenced below contacted the Defendant's customer service line to complain about the processing fee and, accordingly, these complaints constitute notice and knowledge to the Defendant of the unfair and deceptive nature of their processing and other fees. The online complaints state in relevant part:

#### **Processing Fees**

Contact lenses were ordered for my child over the phone in February of 2021. The bill received did not break out the \$103 processing fee for an order of \$107 in contacts. The processing fee did not include shipping fees. This was discovered when trying to tally the order for reimbursement by the child's father months later and the lens cost did not add up to the total. When contacting the company the only adjustment offered was a \$7.95 shipping credit. The price of contacts was severely misrepresented due to the arbitrary and, per customer service, ever changing "processing fees". (Chobbs 1411 of US; August 27, 2021)

#### Lens.com review: Astronomical processing fee for contact lens order.

Customer since 2014... Last order placed 12/26/2020 and was charged processing fee of \$110.38... I immediately contacted the company and was simply told "that was their processing fee"... I escalated the issue as I have never paid more than \$35.96 for a processing fee (last order was 8/2020 and fee was \$29.54)... Continued to reach out via email and was finally told on Jan 3rd that my complaint was escalated to leadership... I reached out again on Jan 11, 12 and now this morning and have never been contacted back... I am now in the process of disputing charge with the credit card company... I have included the processing fees paid so you can see for yourself the ridiculous amount charged this last order:

4-2014 \$18.16 3-2015 \$26.47 8-2015 \$26.11 9-2016 \$35.96 9-2017 \$25.51 9-2018 \$25.99 12-2019 \$27.51 8-2020 \$29.54 12-2020 \$110.38

I understand I owe for the contacts but I refuse to pay that amount for processing! (juhnklo of US; January 15, 2021)

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# Extraordinarily high processing fee.

On July 7, 2023, I submitted an order and paid \$220 for 4 boxes of contacts. A bargain so I thought, because I would also get a \$75 rebate. Again, so I thought. Imagine my surprise when I see I was charged \$330 for my order due to a huge \$120 processing fee. Apparently the 'submit order' button appears before the processing fee (which requires you to scroll down past the submit order so you don't see the additional fee.) It doesn't appear on the consumers invoice on their site, but somehow when you questions it, the Customer service people are able to produce an invoice showing the fee. They claim it is automatically added 'by the system' and they cannot refund any portion of it. The processing fee was more than 50% of my total purchase and in reading the complaints about them, they take so long to issue the \$75 rebate that the expiration date is so close or past, rendering it useless as it is a visa gift card. These complaints date back to 2014 and nothing has changed. Below is the invoice AFTER the order was submitted. (K. Lennon, Rochdale, MA; July 18, 2023)

# Lens.com added 85% to my order in "tax & fees"

intended to purchase 4 boxes of contact lenses at \$31.74 per box. They advertised \$9.24 per box if I ordered 8 boxes, which would have been \$73.92, instead of \$253. 92. When I clicked "checkout" the total was\$485.79! They added \$213.92 in "tax & fees", which is an additional 85%.

I clicked the "chat 24/7" line and the rep did everything possible to avoid explaining what "fees" were, since tax would be no more than \$22 in any state. I had to ask SIX TIMES, but he finally was forced to admit that "fees" were: "This includes calling your doctor on your behalf, doctor's fees since we need to verify your prescription, and handling and processing your order. If the customer has a valid prescription, there is no need to call the doctor. Tax would have been \$20 so the "rebate" which was applied to the order, tax and their undisclosed "fees" added 85% to the cost of the order. I told them that was fraud and they lost my business. (Gail Reznik of US; March 26, 2023)

#### Hidden taxes and fees

When I went to re-order my contacts at Lens.com I noticed advertised pricing and total cost didn't add up. I went to order my 8 boxes so I would get the \$160 RB. Listed at \$42.79 per box before RB (22.79 after RB) times the required 8 boxes = 342.32 (\$182.32 after RB)plus \$9.95 Shipping. This should make for a grand total of \$352.27( before RB). At check out total came up as \$566.19! Call Lens.com, spoke with a rep. I was told to go back to the shipping page, there they show a "Taxes & fees" of 213.92! Contacts are NOT taxable! They are a rip off company with miss leading and Illegal sales tactics. I've used them several times in the past and had not been charged these taxes & fees, I will no longer purchase from them and will

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tell others of my bad experience. (Sharon McD of Levittown, US; March 1, 2023.

### Lens.com review: Deceptive fees and rebate hurdles

Customer since 2014, but noticed a huge disparity in cost when initiating my most recent order. Without a rebate, they show \$72.24 per 90-lens box of 1-day lenses. Buy 8 boxes and the price (after rebate) is shown as \$35.99 and rebate as \$290. Great. The next screen in the checkout asks you to confirm where you want the boxes sent with a 'continue' button below it. When you accidentally scroll below that, you see a blowout of the order, with a whopping \$241.92 in taxes and fees that "are compensation for servicing your order". That's the only place they show the added taxes/fees. If you click 'continue' and approve where to send the boxes, you miss that, because the final checkout screen never shows that added charge in its summary of your order. ... This is deceptive. (eyecu of Seattle, US; January 12, 2023)

# Ridiculous fee added without my knowledge

I just learned that they added a \$50 fee for for processing on an \$80 order. And the customer rep could not explain what the processing fee was for. What a ripoff! (thomassu of Centerville, US; December 5, 2022)

19. These consumer complaints describe in detail the repeated notice that Lens.com has received from consumers about its hidden processing fees and demonstrate its continued use of unfair and deceptive acts and practices to create revenue from junk fees.

#### **Plaintiff's Transactions**

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- 20. Plaintiff's transactions with Lens.com highlight the deceptive nature of Lens.com's business practices. In August 2019, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$77.29 with free shipping. The subtotal that was charged to Plaintiff, however, was \$82.50, which included a \$5.21 undisclosed processing charge. The "processing fee" was only disclosed on the packing form delivered with the contact lenses.
- 21. Likewise, in May 2020, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$141.48 with free shipping. The subtotal that was charged to Plaintiff, however, was

\$164.05, which thus included a \$22.57 undisclosed processing charge. The packing form received when the contact lenses were delivered indicated a charge of \$30.52 for "shipping & Handling."

- 22. Similarly, in April 2021, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses with a total price of \$55.97 and free shipping. However, the subtotal charged to Plaintiff was \$111.97 and thus included an undisclosed processing charge of \$55.97. The one-page packing form received when the contact lenses were delivered did not itemize the transaction charges or disclose the amount of the processing fee.
- 23. Plaintiff ultimately complained to Lens.com about the processing charges and was told that the processing fee used to be disclosed on the website but had been removed, there had been recent changes to the website but the fee was still not disclosed, the failure to disclose the processing fee has been reported to IT by several other agents and that Lens.com was trying to get that back up on the website.

# **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

24. Pursuant to Massachusetts Rule of Civil Procedure 23, Plaintiff brings this class action individually and on behalf of the following proposed class of persons, initially defined as:

All consumers who purchased contact lenses in Massachusetts and were charged a processing or handling fee with their contact lens order in the six years preceding the filing of this Complaint. (hereinafter the "Class").

The Class does not include Defendant; any affiliate, parent or subsidiary of Defendant; any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest; any officer, director or employee of Defendant; any successor or assign of Defendant; Plaintiff's counsel or anyone employed by Plaintiff's counsel in this action and their immediate families; any judge to whom this case is assigned and any member

Docket Number 2484CV00531

of his/her immediate family and staff; governmental entities; or individuals who have personal injury claims as a result of conduct and/or defects alleged herein.

25. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend or supplement the Class descriptions with greater specificity or further division into subclasses or limitation to certain issues, after conducting discovery in this matter. Plaintiff also reserves the right to amend or supplement the proposed Class after conducting discovery in this matter.

# **Rule 23 Class Certification Requirements**

- 26. Numerosity of the Class The members of the Class are so numerous that their individual joinder is impracticable. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that Lens.com processed tens or hundreds of thousands of contact lens orders and included an undisclosed processing fee with those orders. Adjudication of the claims in a class action context will provide substantial benefits to the parties and the Court.
- 27. Commonality and Predominance Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over questions affecting only individual Class members, as is required by Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(2) and (b)(3). These common questions include, but are not limited to:
  - a) whether Lens.com engaged in the conduct alleged herein;
  - b) whether Defendant failed to adequately disclose a processing and/or handling fee prior to the completion of an online order for contact lenses;
  - c) whether Defendant's undisclosed processing and/or handling fee inflated the product price;
  - d) whether Defendant's processing and/or handling fees exceeded actual costs and constituted a hidden profit for Defendant;
  - e) whether Plaintiff and Class Members suffered out-of-pocket losses as a result of Defendant's actions and/or inactions alleged herein, and if so, how much;

Date Filed 2/25/2024 62018 Mase 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 47 of 141 Superior Court - Suffolk Docket Number 2484CV00531 Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1-1 Filed 04/25/24 Page 10 of 14

- f) whether Plaintiff and Class Members will suffer out-of-pocket losses as a result of Defendant's alleged actions and/or inactions alleged herein, and if so, how much.
- 28. Typicality The claims of the representative Plaintiff are typical of the claims of each member of the Class, thus satisfying Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3). Plaintiff, like all other members of the Class, have sustained damages arising from Lens.com's violations of the laws, as alleged herein. The representative Plaintiff and the members of the Class were and are similarly or identically harmed by the same unlawful, deceptive, unfair, systematic, and pervasive pattern of misconduct engaged in by Lens.com. Plaintiff's claims arise from the same practices and course of conduct that give rise to the claims of all other members of the Class.
- 29. Adequacy The representative Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class Members and have retained counsel who are experienced and competent trial lawyers in complex litigation and class action litigation, thus satisfying Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4). There are no material conflicts between the claims of the representative Plaintiff and the members of the Class that would make class certification inappropriate. Counsel for the Class will vigorously assert the claims of all Class members.
- 30. **Declaratory or Injunctive Relief** Lens.com has acted and refused to act on grounds generally applicable to Plaintiff and Members of the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief appropriate regarding the Class as a whole. Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2).
- 31. Superiority This suit may be maintained as a class action under Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3), because a class action is superior to any other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this dispute and no unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in its management of this class action. The damages suffered by individual class members are small in comparison to the burden and expense of individually litigating each claim and based on the

complex and extensive litigation needed to address Spirit's conduct. Further, it would be virtually impossible for the Class Members to individually redress effectively the wrongs done to them. Even if Class Members themselves could afford such individual litigation, the court system could not. In addition, individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties and to the court system resulting from complex legal and factual issues of the case. Individualized litigation also presents a potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments. By contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties; allows the hearing of claims which might otherwise go unaddressed because of the relative expense of bringing individual lawsuits; and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

32. Ascertainability: Upon information and belief, the precise number of Class Members may be ascertained from Lens.com's records. Plaintiff contemplates the eventual issuance of notice to the proposed Class members setting forth the nature of the instant action. Upon information and belief, Class members may be notified of this action by recognized, Court approved notice dissemination methods, which may include U.S. mail, electronic mail, Internet postings, social media, and published notices, in addition to Lens.com's own business records.

# COUNT I BREACH OF CONTRACT

- 33. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 34. Plaintiff's and other Class members' purchase of contact lenses constituted a contract between them and Lens.com, namely through the terms and conditions on the Lens.com

site. The terms and conditions do not mention a processing charge for online orders of contact lenses.

- 35. Plaintiff and the Class Members performed all requirements under their agreements with Lens.com, namely the payment of the amount charged by Lens.com for the order.
- 36. Lens.com breached its agreement with Plaintiff and the Class Members when it charged a hidden processing fee in connection with the contact lens orders.
- 37. Plaintiff and members of the Class have suffered an injury through the payment of the processing fee.
- 38. Plaintiff and Class members are therefore entitled to all incidental, consequential, and indirect damages resulting from Lens.com's breach of contract. Lens.com's breach caused damages to Plaintiff and the Class Members.
- 39. Plaintiff and the Class Members seek to recover all permitted damages and their attorneys' fees caused by Defendant's breach.

# COUNT II BREACH OF THE DUTY OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING

- 40. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 41. The Defendant had an obligation to exercise of duty of good faith and fair dealing when transacting business with Plaintiff and the Class.
- 42. The Plaintiff and the Class made purchases at Lens.com's online website. Lens.com advertised, disclosed and charged a specific price for each contact lens purchase. It claimed that it had the lowest contact lens prices.

- 43. However, the Defendant, as matter a pattern and practice, assessed hidden junk fees to consumer's transaction which it labeled as processing and/or handling fees. These fees were not described on the Defendant's website or as part of the sale.
  - 44. In addition, these junk fees varied from transaction to transaction.
- 45. The junk fees were charged to Plaintiff's credit and debit cards, thereby driving up the actual costs of their contact lens purchases.
- 46. Lens.com used these hidden fees, which do not purport to approximate actual expenses incurred, as a hidden profit center. Not including these hidden fees in the product price allowed Lens.com to falsely claim that it had the lowest prices.
- 47. Lens.com's pattern and practice of charging its consumers hidden junk fees in its transactions constituted a breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing it owed to consumers as part of the transactions.
- 48. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendant's acts and/or omissions, the Plaintiff and the Class suffered damages.

# COUNT III UNJUST ENRICHMENT

- 49. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 50. Plaintiff and the Class Members conferred substantial benefits on Lens.com by purchasing contact lenses and by paying processing charges to Lens.com.
- 51. Lens.com knowingly and willingly accepted and enjoyed those benefits.

  Lens.com's retention of these benefits is inequitable and would be against good conscience
- 52. As a direct and proximate cause of Lens.com's unjust enrichment, Plaintiff and the Class Members are entitled to restitution, attorneys' fees, costs and interest.

# PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, pray for a judgment against Defendant as follows:

- a. For an order certifying the Class, appointing Plaintiff as Representative of the Class, and appointing the law firm representing Plaintiff as counsel for the Class;
- b. For compensatory damages and/or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com from Plaintiff and the Class Members as a result of the Company's unlawful, unfair, deceptive and unconscionable practices described herein in an amount to be proven at trial;
- c. For compensatory damages caused by Lens.com's breach of contract with Plaintiff and the Class Members to the extent permitted by law in an amount to be proven at trial;
  - d. Both pre-and post-judgment interest on any amounts awarded;
  - e. Payment of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by law;
  - f. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

The Plaintiff requests a trial by jury on all claims.

On behalf of the Plaintiff and the Putative Class,

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin Phillips, BBO# 561916
Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084
PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C.
13 Ventura Drive
North Dartmouth, MA 02747
(508) 998-0800
(508) 998-0919 (fax)
cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

Date Filed 4/25/2024 12:18 PMRSE 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 52 of 141 Superior Court - Suffolk

Superior Court - Suffolk
Docket Number 2484CV00531 Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1-2 Filed 04/25/24 Page 1 of 2

Summo	ins	CIVIL DOCKET NO.  2484CV00531-BLS2	Trial Court of Massacht The Superior Court	usetts 🕡
Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,  Plainuff(s)  VS.  Lens.com, Inc.		John E. Powers III Suffolk  COURT NAME & ADDRESS: Suffolk Superior Civil Court Three Pemberton Square Boston, MA. 02108	ACTIDS Clerk of Courts County	
		Defendant(e)		

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO Lens. com. Inc. (Defendant's name)

You are being sued. The Plaintiff(s) named above has started a lawsuit against you. A copy of the Plaintiff's Complaint filed against you is attached to this Summons and the original Complaint has been filed in the Suffolk County Superior Court.

YOU MUST ACT PROMPTLY TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.

#### 1. You must respond to this lawsuit in writing within 20 days.

If you do not respond, the Court may decide the case against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the Complaint. You will also lose the opportunity to tell your side of the story. You must respond to this lawsuit in writing even if you expect to resolve this matter with the Plaintiff. If you need more time to respond, you may request an extension of time in writing from the Court.

#### 2. How to Respond.

To respond to this lawsuit, you must file a written response with the Court <u>and</u> mail a copy to the Plaintiff's attorney (or the Plaintiff, if unrepresented). You can do this by:

a) Filing your signed original response with the Clerk's Office for Civil Business, Suffolk County Superior Court Business Littigution Session 2, Room 1017, 3 Pemberton Sq., Boston, MA 02108 (address), by mail, in person, or electronically through the web portal www.eFileMA.com if the Complaint was e-filed through that portal, AND

b) Delivering or mailing **a copy** of your response to the Plaintiff's attorney/Plaintiff at the following address: Carlin J. Phillips, Esq., Phillips & Garcia, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747

#### 3. What to Include in Your Response.

An "Answer" is one type of response to a Complaint. Your Answer must state whether you agree or disagree with the fact(s) alleged in each paragraph of the Complaint. Some defenses, called affirmative defenses, must be stated in your Answer or you may lose your right to use them in Court. If you have any claims against the Plaintiff (referred to as "counterclaims") that are based on the same facts or transaction described in the Complaint, then you must include those claims in your Answer. Otherwise, you may lose your right to sue the Plaintiff about anything related to this lawsuit. If you want to have your case heard by a jury, you must specifically request a jury trial in your Court no more than 10 days after sending your Answer.

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3. (cont.) Another way to respond to a Complaint is by filling a "Motion to Dismiss," if you believe that the Complaint is
legally invalid or legally insufficient. A Motion to Dismiss must be based on one of the legal deficiencies or reasons listed
under Rule 12 of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure. If you are filling a Motion to Dismiss, you must follow
the filing rules for "CIvII Motions in Superior Court," available at:

#### www.mass.gov/law-library/massachusetts-superior-court-rules

4. Legal Assi	stance.
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Docket Number 2484CV00531

You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you cannot get legal help, some basic information for people who represent themselves is available at www.mass.gov/courts/selfhelp.

#### 5. Required Information on All Filings.

The "Civil Docket No." appearing at the top of this notice is the case number assigned to this case and must appear on the front of your Answer or Motion to Dismiss. You should refer to yourself as the "Defendant."

Witness Hon. Michael D.	Ricciuti	, Chief Justice on	, <sup>20</sup> (Seal)
Acting Clerk	45	<u>6</u>	
Note: The docket number assign served on the Defendant		lginal Complaint by the Clerk sh	ould be stated on this Summons before it is
	PF	ROOF OF SERVICE OF PROCE	ESS
I hereby certify that on	, ls	served a copy of this Summons,	together with a copy of the Complaint
in this action, on the Defendant na Rules of Civil Procedure):	med in this \$	Summons, in the following manr	ner (See Rule 4(d)(1-5) of the Massachusetts
Dated:		Signatur	e:

#### N.B. TO PROCESS SERVER:

PLEASE ENTER THE DATE THAT YOU MADE SERVICE ON THE DEFENDANT IN THIS BOX - BOTH ON THE ORIGINAL SUMMONS AND ON THE COPY OF THE SUMMONS SERVED ON THE DEFENDANT.

Date:

Date Filed 4/28700248172 FAIN ase 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 54 of 141

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#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

Case: 2484CV00531-BLS2	Court: Suffolk Superior Civil Court	County: , MA	<b>Job</b> : 10757417 (22544865)	
Plaintiff / Petitioner: Angela Gonneville		Defendant / Respondent: Lens.com, Inc.		
Received by: One Legal, an InfoTrack Company		For: Phillips Garcia Law		
To be served upon: Lens.com, Inc.				

Recipient Name:

Karen Scott

Recipient Address: Business: 4730 S Fort Apache Rd Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147

Manner of Service: Business Serve, Mar 28, 2024, 8:59 am PDT

Documents:

Summons, Class Action Complaint, Civil Action Cover Sheet, Notice of Acceptance into Business Litigation Session

(BLS2), Demand Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 93A Section 9

#### Diligence / Comments:

1) Successful Attempt: Mar 28, 2024, 8:59 am PDT at Business: 4730 S Fort Apache Rd Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147 received by Karen Scott. Age: 55-60; Ethnicity: African American; Gender: Female; Weight: 150; Height: 5'4"; Hair: Black; Eyes: Black; Other: Served registered agent authorized except Documents, Karen Scott;

#### Statement(s):

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Reggie Mitchell

Date

03/29/2024

Registration: R-2019-12597

InfoTrack US, Inc. - P000634 1400 N McDowell Blvd, Suite 300

Petaluma, CA 94954 800-938-8815

# 2484CV00531 Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated vs. Lens.com

Case Type:		
Business Litigation		
Case Status:		
File Date 02/23/2024		
DCM Track: B - Special Track (BLS)		
Initiating Action: Complex Unfair Trade Practices		
Status Date: 02/23/2024		
Case Judge:		
Next Event: 08/28/2024		

Party Information	nn .		in .			10.00	
		and on behalf of a	Ill others similarly situated	and the second		As company of the single product of the product	er voersteer material re
Alias			Party Attorney Attorney Garcia, Esq., Andrew J Bar Code 559084 Address Phillips and Garcia, PC 13 Ventura Drive North Dartmouth, MA 02 Phone Number (508)998-0800 Attorney Phillips, Esq., Carlin John Bar Code 561916 Address Phillips and Garcia, PC 13 Ventura Drive Dartmouth, MA 02747 Phone Number (508)998-0800		en de Vago.	STATE OF STA	
Lens.com - Defendant Alias		**	Party Attorney			Mole Falt	y Informatio
			The second secon	o en montre no	James Holy, St. Park Jam (4)4000111. J	More Part	y Information
Events			~•				
Date	Session	Location	Type	Service and Service 1% and in	minim me want day and	Event Judge	Resul

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Date	Session	Location	Туре	Event Judge Resul
08/28/2024 02:00	Business	BOS-10th FL, CR 1017	BLS Rule 16 Litigation Control	Squires-Lee, Hon.
PM	Litigation 2	(SC)	Conference	Debra A
		waste war se-	1 m x m x m	-

Docket Date	Docket Text	File Ref Nbr.	lmage Avail.
02/23/2024	Complaint electronically filed.	1	
02/23/2024	Civil action cover sheet filed.	2	lmog <u>e</u>
02/23/2024	Attorney appearance On this date Carlin John Phillips, Esq. added for Plaintiff Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated		lmage
02/23/2024	Attorney appearance On this date Andrew J Garcia, Esq. added for Plaintiff Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated		
02/26/2024	Docket Note: (1) summons sent by mail.		
	Applies To: Garcia, Esq., Andrew J (Attorney) on behalf of Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated (Plaintiff)		
02/26/2024	General correspondence regarding Notice of Acceptance into Business Litigation Session Accepted into BLS2 (Dated 2/26/2024) Notice sent 2/26/2024	3	lmage
03/13/2024	The following form was generated:		(0-1 00)
	Notice to Appear - BLS Sent On: 03/13/2024 11:45:29		
04/02/2024	Service Returned for	4	<b>2</b>
	Applies To: Lens.com (Defendant)		Image
04/04/2024	Plaintiff Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated's Assented to Motion for Extension Of Time To Respond To The Complaint	5	[mage
04/09/2024	Endorsement on Motion for extension of time to respond to the complaint (#5.0): ALLOWED Allowed to May 17, 2024. (dated 4/8/2024) Notice sent 4/9/24		<u>Image</u>
04/23/2024	The following form was generated:	a fei	
	Notice to Appear - BLS Sent On: 04/23/2024 14:44:28		

Disposition	Date	Case Judge	
Pending			

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, SS

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION

ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated

Plaintiff

V.

LENS.COM, INC.

Defendant

Defendant

# **CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, brings this Class Action Complaint for damages for unfair and deceptive sales practices committed by Defendant, Lens.com, Inc.

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1. This is a consumer class action case involving an undisclosed junk fee that Lens.com charges as part of online contact lens orders. More particularly, Lens.com adds an undisclosed and non-itemized "processing charge" to contact lens orders after customers have already filled out the details of their contact lens orders. Lens.com has received numerous complaints regarding this undisclosed charge.
- 2. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class of consumers in Massachusetts who have paid an undisclosed processing or handling charge on their contact lens order. Given the amount of the

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> fees at issue and given the number of potential consumers impacted, a class action is the most judicially efficient manner of adjudicating this dispute.

# PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- Plaintiff, Angela Gonneville ("Plaintiff" or "Ms. Gonneville"), is an individual who 3. resides in Massachusetts.
- Defendant, Lens.com, Inc. ("Lens.com" or "Defendant"), is a Nevada corporation 4. with its principal place of business in the State of Missouri.
- 5. The Court has original jurisdiction over the civil claims alleged in Plaintiff's Complaint pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 212 § 4.
- 6. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Lens.com pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 223 § 3 because Lens.com conducts significant business in Massachusetts, namely through the marketing, advertising, selling and delivery of contacts lens products in Massachusetts to consumers such as Plaintiff.
- 7. Likewise, venue is proper here as the defendant markets, advertises, sells and delivers contacts lens products to Massachusetts consumers in this county.

# FACTUAL BACKGROUND

#### The Business of Lens.com

- 8. Lens.com is an online seller of contact lenses and claims that it provides consumers "the best way to buy contact lenses - better than your eye doctor, better than big box, better than other websites." Lens.com further claims that it offers the lowest prices of any contact lens seller online or in-store and that most orders ship within 24 hours.
- 9. Lens.com markets its contact lenses as having "Year Round *Unbeatable* Prices." On its website it states that it has delivered over 691 million contact lenses. It further touts that,

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"With over 35 Million contact lenses in stock, we immediately fill your order with your exact prescription."

shipping cost?", Lens.com states: "At Lens.com we don't bury the cost of shipping in every box we sell. We are completely transparent and let you decide what's best for you. We offer you reliable shipping at extremely competitive prices/rates. You will be able to select the best method for your personal needs at checkout." It then includes a chart of shipping costs within the United States, Canada and Internationally. Nowhere under its description of shipping costs is there mention of a "processing" or "handling" fee of any kind. A search of the words "Processing Fee" on Lens.com's website yields no information.

# The Proliferation of Junk Fees in Online Consumer Transactions

- 11. Retailers, like Lens.com, are increasingly charging consumers "junk fees" in online transactions to increase profits. "Junk Fees" are defined by the Federal Trade Commission as "unnecessary, unavoidable, or surprise charges that inflate costs while adding little to no value." The FTC notes that "[c]onsumers can get hit with junk fees at any stage of the purchase or payment process. Companies often harvest junk fees by imposing them on captive consumers or by deploying digital dark patterns and other tricks to hide or mask them." https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2022/10/federal-trade-commission-explores-rule-cracking-down-junk-fees.
- 12. Common junk fees are convenience fees, processing fees, resort fees, service fees and overdraft fees. The White House recently issued a junk fee guide for the states noting how junk fees have overrun the American economy and are "often not disclosed upfront and only revealed after a consumer has decided to buy something, obscure true prices and dilute the forces

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> of market competition the bedrock of the U.S. economy." that are https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/WH-Junk-Fees-Guide-for-States.pdf

### Lens.com's Sales Practices and Junk Fees

- 13. Lens.com's marketing materials state that "we don't bury the cost of shipping in every box we sell. We are completely transparent and let you decide what's best for you. We offer you reliable shipping at extremely competitive prices/rates. You will be able to select the best method for your personal needs at checkout."
- 14. Despite these claims, Lens.com packs a junk fee into its transactions which it describes after the point of purchase as a "processing fee." This processing fee is separate from its shipping fee, which in the Plaintiff's case was either free or \$7.95.
- 15. Lens.com fails to disclose or itemize its processing fee during online transactions and inflates the total transaction price by the amount of the hidden processing fee at the end of the transaction when a consumer's credit card is being processed. These hidden fees add to the total product price but are not disclosed at any point in the cycle of the transaction, in marketing materials, frequently asked questions on Lens.com's website or in product pricing disclosures.
- 16. In some transactions, Lens.com never discloses the existence or amount of its processing fee. In other transactions the hidden fees are only disclosed on a packing slip provided to the consumer when the product is delivered. In those circumstances, the hidden fees are listed as "PROCESSING" or as "Shipping & Handling" fees.
- 17. The amount of the processing fee charged by Lens.com varies greatly and from transaction to transaction. The Plaintiff's processing fees were \$55.97, \$22.57 and \$5.21.
- 18. Numerous online complaints made by Lens.com customers describe processing fees that are over \$100. The below listed consumer complaints made to Complaints Board, an

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online consumer complaint center, describe Lens.com's surprise processing fee. Each consumer referenced below contacted the Defendant's customer service line to complain about the processing fee and, accordingly, these complaints constitute notice and knowledge to the Defendant of the unfair and deceptive nature of their processing and other fees. The online complaints state in relevant part:

#### **Processing Fees**

Contact lenses were ordered for my child over the phone in February of 2021. The bill received did not break out the \$103 processing fee for an order of \$107 in contacts. The processing fee did not include shipping fees. This was discovered when trying to tally the order for reimbursement by the child's father months later and the lens cost did not add up to the total. When contacting the company the only adjustment offered was a \$7.95 shipping credit. The price of contacts was severely misrepresented due to the arbitrary and, per customer service, ever changing "processing fees". (Chobbs 1411 of US; August 27, 2021)

# Lens.com review: Astronomical processing fee for contact lens order.

Customer since 2014... Last order placed 12/26/2020 and was charged processing fee of \$110.38... I immediately contacted the company and was simply told "that was their processing fee"... I escalated the issue as I have never paid more than \$35.96 for a processing fee (last order was 8/2020 and fee was \$29.54)... Continued to reach out via email and was finally told on Jan 3rd that my complaint was escalated to leadership... I reached out again on Jan 11, 12 and now this morning and have never been contacted back... I am now in the process of disputing charge with the credit card company... I have included the processing fees paid so you can see for yourself the ridiculous amount charged this last order:

4-2014 \$18.16 3-2015 \$26.47 8-2015 \$26.11 9-2016 \$35.96 9-2017 \$25.51 9-2018 \$25.99 12-2019 \$27.51 8-2020 \$29.54 12-2020 \$110.38

I understand I owe for the contacts but I refuse to pay that amount for processing! (juhnklo of US; January 15, 2021)

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# Extraordinarily high processing fee.

On July 7, 2023, I submitted an order and paid \$220 for 4 boxes of contacts. A bargain so I thought, because I would also get a \$75 rebate. Again, so I thought. Imagine my surprise when I see I was charged \$330 for my order due to a huge \$120 processing fee. Apparently the 'submit order' button appears before the processing fee (which requires you to scroll down past the submit order so you don't see the additional fee.) It doesn't appear on the consumers invoice on their site, but somehow when you questions it, the Customer service people are able to produce an invoice showing the fee. They claim it is automatically added 'by the system' and they cannot refund any portion of it. The processing fee was more than 50% of my total purchase and in reading the complaints about them, they take so long to issue the \$75 rebate that the expiration date is so close or past, rendering it useless as it is a visa gift card. These complaints date back to 2014 and nothing has changed. Below is the invoice AFTER the order was submitted. (K. Lennon, Rochdale, MA; July 18, 2023)

# Lens.com added 85% to my order in "tax & fees"

intended to purchase 4 boxes of contact lenses at \$31.74 per box. They advertised \$9.24 per box if I ordered 8 boxes, which would have been \$73.92, instead of \$253. 92. When I clicked "checkout" the total was\$485.79! They added \$213.92 in "tax & fees", which is an additional 85%.

I clicked the "chat 24/7" line and the rep did everything possible to avoid explaining what "fees" were, since tax would be no more than \$22 in any state. I had to ask SIX TIMES, but he finally was forced to admit that "fees" were: "This includes calling your doctor on your behalf, doctor's fees since we need to verify your prescription, and handling and processing your order. If the customer has a valid prescription, there is no need to call the doctor. Tax would have been \$20 so the "rebate" which was applied to the order, tax and their undisclosed "fees" added 85% to the cost of the order. I told them that was fraud and they lost my business. (Gail Reznik of US; March 26, 2023)

#### Hidden taxes and fees

When I went to re-order my contacts at Lens.com I noticed advertised pricing and total cost didn't add up. I went to order my 8 boxes so I would get the \$160 RB. Listed at \$42.79 per box before RB (22.79 after RB) times the required 8 boxes = 342.32 (\$182.32 after RB)plus \$9.95 Shipping. This should make for a grand total of \$352.27( before RB). At check out total came up as \$566.19! Call Lens.com, spoke with a rep. I was told to go back to the shipping page, there they show a "Taxes & fees" of 213.92! Contacts are NOT taxable! They are a rip off company with miss leading and Illegal sales tactics. I've used them several times in the past and had not been charged these taxes & fees, I will no longer purchase from them and will

tell others of my bad experience. (Sharon McD of Levittown, US; March 1, 2023.

# Lens.com review: Deceptive fees and rebate hurdles

Customer since 2014, but noticed a huge disparity in cost when initiating my most recent order. Without a rebate, they show \$72.24 per 90-lens box of 1-day lenses. Buy 8 boxes and the price (after rebate) is shown as \$35.99 and rebate as \$290. Great. The next screen in the checkout asks you to confirm where you want the boxes sent with a 'continue' button below it. When you accidentally scroll below that, you see a blowout of the order, with a whopping \$241.92 in taxes and fees that "are compensation for servicing your order". That's the only place they show the added taxes/fees. If you click 'continue' and approve where to send the boxes, you miss that, because the final checkout screen never shows that added charge in its summary of your order. ... This is deceptive. (eyecu of Seattle, US; January 12, 2023)

#### Ridiculous fee added without my knowledge

I just learned that they added a \$50 fee for for processing on an \$80 order. And the customer rep could not explain what the processing fee was for. What a ripoff! (thomassu of Centerville, US; December 5, 2022)

19. These consumer complaints describe in detail the repeated notice that Lens.com has received from consumers about its hidden processing fees and demonstrate its continued use of unfair and deceptive acts and practices to create revenue from junk fees.

#### Plaintiff's Transactions

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- 20. Plaintiff's transactions with Lens.com highlight the deceptive nature of Lens.com's business practices. In August 2019, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$77.29 with free shipping. The subtotal that was charged to Plaintiff, however, was \$82.50, which included a \$5.21 undisclosed processing charge. The "processing fee" was only disclosed on the packing form delivered with the contact lenses.
- 21. Likewise, in May 2020, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$141.48 with free shipping. The subtotal that was charged to Plaintiff, however, was

\$164.05, which thus included a \$22.57 undisclosed processing charge. The packing form received when the contact lenses were delivered indicated a charge of \$30.52 for "shipping & Handling."

- 22. Similarly, in April 2021, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses with a total price of \$55.97 and free shipping. However, the subtotal charged to Plaintiff was \$111.97 and thus included an undisclosed processing charge of \$55.97. The one-page packing form received when the contact lenses were delivered did not itemize the transaction charges or disclose the amount of the processing fee.
- 23. Plaintiff ultimately complained to Lens.com about the processing charges and was told that the processing fee used to be disclosed on the website but had been removed, there had been recent changes to the website but the fee was still not disclosed, the failure to disclose the processing fee has been reported to IT by several other agents and that Lens.com was trying to get that back up on the website.

## **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

24. Pursuant to Massachusetts Rule of Civil Procedure 23, Plaintiff brings this class action individually and on behalf of the following proposed class of persons, initially defined as:

All consumers who purchased contact lenses in Massachusetts and were charged a processing or handling fee with their contact lens order in the six years preceding the filing of this Complaint. (hereinafter the "Class").

The Class does not include Defendant; any affiliate, parent or subsidiary of Defendant; any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest; any officer, director or employee of Defendant; any successor or assign of Defendant; Plaintiff's counsel or anyone employed by Plaintiff's counsel in this action and their immediate families; any judge to whom this case is assigned and any member

of his/her immediate family and staff; governmental entities; or individuals who have personal injury claims as a result of conduct and/or defects alleged herein.

25. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend or supplement the Class descriptions with greater specificity or further division into subclasses or limitation to certain issues, after conducting discovery in this matter. Plaintiff also reserves the right to amend or supplement the proposed Class after conducting discovery in this matter.

# **Rule 23 Class Certification Requirements**

- 26. Numerosity of the Class The members of the Class are so numerous that their individual joinder is impracticable. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that Lens.com processed tens or hundreds of thousands of contact lens orders and included an undisclosed processing fee with those orders. Adjudication of the claims in a class action context will provide substantial benefits to the parties and the Court.
- 27. Commonality and Predominance Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over questions affecting only individual Class members, as is required by Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(2) and (b)(3). These common questions include, but are not limited to:
  - a) whether Lens.com engaged in the conduct alleged herein;
  - b) whether Defendant failed to adequately disclose a processing and/or handling fee prior to the completion of an online order for contact lenses;
  - c) whether Defendant's undisclosed processing and/or handling fee inflated the product price;
  - d) whether Defendant's processing and/or handling fees exceeded actual costs and constituted a hidden profit for Defendant;
  - e) whether Plaintiff and Class Members suffered out-of-pocket losses as a result of Defendant's actions and/or inactions alleged herein, and if so, how much;

Date Filed 2/25/2024 62018 Mase 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 66 of 141 Superior Court - Suffolk Docket Number 2484CV00531 Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1-4 Filed 04/25/24 Page 12 of 26

- f) whether Plaintiff and Class Members will suffer out-of-pocket losses as a result of Defendant's alleged actions and/or inactions alleged herein, and if so, how much.
- 28. Typicality The claims of the representative Plaintiff are typical of the claims of each member of the Class, thus satisfying Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3). Plaintiff, like all other members of the Class, have sustained damages arising from Lens.com's violations of the laws, as alleged herein. The representative Plaintiff and the members of the Class were and are similarly or identically harmed by the same unlawful, deceptive, unfair, systematic, and pervasive pattern of misconduct engaged in by Lens.com. Plaintiff's claims arise from the same practices and course of conduct that give rise to the claims of all other members of the Class.
- 29. Adequacy The representative Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class Members and have retained counsel who are experienced and competent trial lawyers in complex litigation and class action litigation, thus satisfying Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4). There are no material conflicts between the claims of the representative Plaintiff and the members of the Class that would make class certification inappropriate. Counsel for the Class will vigorously assert the claims of all Class members.
- 30. **Declaratory or Injunctive Relief** Lens.com has acted and refused to act on grounds generally applicable to Plaintiff and Members of the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief appropriate regarding the Class as a whole. Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2).
- 31. Superiority This suit may be maintained as a class action under Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3), because a class action is superior to any other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this dispute and no unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in its management of this class action. The damages suffered by individual class members are small in comparison to the burden and expense of individually litigating each claim and based on the

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complex and extensive litigation needed to address Spirit's conduct. Further, it would be virtually impossible for the Class Members to individually redress effectively the wrongs done to them. Even if Class Members themselves could afford such individual litigation, the court system could not. In addition, individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties and to the court system resulting from complex legal and factual issues of the case. Individualized litigation also presents a potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments. By contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties; allows the hearing of claims which might otherwise go unaddressed because of the relative expense of bringing individual lawsuits; and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

32. Ascertainability: Upon information and belief, the precise number of Class Members may be ascertained from Lens.com's records. Plaintiff contemplates the eventual issuance of notice to the proposed Class members setting forth the nature of the instant action. Upon information and belief, Class members may be notified of this action by recognized, Court approved notice dissemination methods, which may include U.S. mail, electronic mail, Internet postings, social media, and published notices, in addition to Lens.com's own business records.

# **COUNT I BREACH OF CONTRACT**

- 33. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 34. Plaintiff's and other Class members' purchase of contact lenses constituted a contract between them and Lens.com, namely through the terms and conditions on the Lens.com

site. The terms and conditions do not mention a processing charge for online orders of contact lenses.

- 35. Plaintiff and the Class Members performed all requirements under their agreements with Lens.com, namely the payment of the amount charged by Lens.com for the order.
- Lens.com breached its agreement with Plaintiff and the Class Members when it 36. charged a hidden processing fee in connection with the contact lens orders.
- 37. Plaintiff and members of the Class have suffered an injury through the payment of the processing fee.
- 38. Plaintiff and Class members are therefore entitled to all incidental, consequential, and indirect damages resulting from Lens.com's breach of contract. Lens.com's breach caused damages to Plaintiff and the Class Members.
- 39. Plaintiff and the Class Members seek to recover all permitted damages and their attorneys' fees caused by Defendant's breach.

# **COUNT II** BREACH OF THE DUTY OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING

- 40. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 41. The Defendant had an obligation to exercise of duty of good faith and fair dealing when transacting business with Plaintiff and the Class.
- 42. The Plaintiff and the Class made purchases at Lens.com's online website. Lens.com advertised, disclosed and charged a specific price for each contact lens purchase. It claimed that it had the lowest contact lens prices.

- 43. However, the Defendant, as matter a pattern and practice, assessed hidden junk fees
  - 43. However, the Defendant, as matter a pattern and practice, assessed hidden junk fees to consumer's transaction which it labeled as processing and/or handling fees. These fees were not described on the Defendant's website or as part of the sale.
    - 44. In addition, these junk fees varied from transaction to transaction.
  - 45. The junk fees were charged to Plaintiff's credit and debit cards, thereby driving up the actual costs of their contact lens purchases.
  - 46. Lens.com used these hidden fees, which do not purport to approximate actual expenses incurred, as a hidden profit center. Not including these hidden fees in the product price allowed Lens.com to falsely claim that it had the lowest prices.
  - 47. Lens.com's pattern and practice of charging its consumers hidden junk fees in its transactions constituted a breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing it owed to consumers as part of the transactions.
  - 48. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendant's acts and/or omissions, the Plaintiff and the Class suffered damages.

# COUNT III UNJUST ENRICHMENT

- 49. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 50. Plaintiff and the Class Members conferred substantial benefits on Lens.com by purchasing contact lenses and by paying processing charges to Lens.com.
- 51. Lens.com knowingly and willingly accepted and enjoyed those benefits.

  Lens.com's retention of these benefits is inequitable and would be against good conscience
- 52. As a direct and proximate cause of Lens.com's unjust enrichment, Plaintiff and the Class Members are entitled to restitution, attorneys' fees, costs and interest.

# PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, pray for a judgment against Defendant as follows:

- a. For an order certifying the Class, appointing Plaintiff as Representative of the Class, and appointing the law firm representing Plaintiff as counsel for the Class;
- b. For compensatory damages and/or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com from Plaintiff and the Class Members as a result of the Company's unlawful, unfair, deceptive and unconscionable practices described herein in an amount to be proven at trial;
- c. For compensatory damages caused by Lens.com's breach of contract with Plaintiff and the Class Members to the extent permitted by law in an amount to be proven at trial;
  - d. Both pre-and post-judgment interest on any amounts awarded;
  - e. Payment of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by law;
  - f. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

The Plaintiff requests a trial by jury on all claims.

On behalf of the Plaintiff and the Putative Class,

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive North Dartmouth, MA 02747 (508) 998-0800 (508) 998-0919 (fax) cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

DATE:

CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET	DOCKET NOG) B.L.S.	Trial Court Of Massachusetts Superior Court Department County: SUFFOLK
Angela Gonneville, indiv. similarly situated,	and on behallf of all others	DEFENDANT(S) Lens.com, Inc.
Carlin J. Phillips, BBO 56 GARCIA, P.C.,13 Ventura 02747; 508-998-0800; cp	1916, PHILLIPS &	ATTORNEY (if known)
Origin Code Original Complaint BK1		
(B)	s <b>□</b> No	N. TYPE OF ACTION (specify) TRACK IS THIS A JURY CASE?*
BKI Consume	r Class Action	
The following is a full and detailed st	atement of the facts on which plaintiff relie	es to determine eligibility in to The Business Litigation Session.
contact lens orders. More to online transactions whi numerous complaints from continued to charge conscious while adding I hide or mask the fees, the comparison shop based of	e particularly, Lens.com add ch, in the plaintiff's case, var the Plaintiff and other consumers these fees in online tritle to no value and are ofte ereby inflating the purchase on price. The nature, complete	e the lowest prices, charges as part of online is an undisclosed and non-itemized processing feeried from \$55.97 to \$22.57 to \$5.21. Despite sumers about undisclosed fees, Lens.com ransactions. Per the FTC, junk fees inflate costs to in imposed on captive consumers by using tricks to price and frustrating a consumer's ability to exity, uniformity and scope of the issue surrounding online transaction process warrants acceptance in
* A Special Tracking Order shall be cr	eated by the Presiding Justice of the Busin	ess Litigation Session at the Rule 16 Conference.
PLEASE IDENTIFY, BY CASE NUMB	EER, NAME AND COUNTY, ANY RELAT	ED ACTION PENUING IN THE SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT.
	th information about court-connected d sp	preme ardicial fourth inform Rules on Dispute Resolution (SJC Rule 1:18)  We result thin it demoliciscus with them the advantages and

Date Filed 4/25/2024 12:18 PM ase 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 72 of 141 Superior Court - Suffolk

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# Commonwealth of Massachusetts County of Suffolk The Superior Court - Business Litigation Session

CIVIL DOCKET#: 2484CV00531-BLS2

Notice Sent

Case: Gonneville v. Lens.com, Inc.

Docket Number 2484CV00531

# **NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION**

This matter has been accepted into the Suffolk Business Litigation Session. It has been assigned to BLS2.

Hereafter, as shown above, all parties must include the initials "BLS2" at the end of the docket number on all filings.

Counsel for the plaintiff(s) is hereby advised that within seven (7) days of the filing of an appearance, answer, motion or other response to the complaint by or on behalf of the defendant(s) which has been served with process within the time limitation of Mass. R. Civ. P. 4(j), or such other time as may be modified by the Court, he or she shall send notice thereof to the appropriate BLS Session Clerk at Suffolk Superior Court, Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108.

Upon receipt of such notice, the Court will issue a Notice of Initial Rule 16 Conference for purposes of meeting with all counsel. Before the Rule 16 Conference, counsel shall discuss with their clients and with opposing counsel whether the parties will participate in the BLS Project on Discovery (counsel are directed to www.mass.gov/superior-court-business-litigationsession for description of the Project). Counsel may indicate their respective client's participation by completing, filing, and serving the attached form. If by the date of the initial Rule 16 Conference, not all parties have given notice of their participation, counsel shall be prepared to discuss at that conference whether their clients will participate in the Project.

The Court requests that plaintiff's counsel serve on opposing parties a copy of this notice and the attached form.

Dated: February 26, 2024

/s/ Kenneth W. Salinger

Kenneth W. Salinger Justice of the Superior Court & Administrative Justice of the Business Litigation Session

Date Filed 4/25/2024 12:18 PM ase 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 73 of 141 Superior Court - Suffolk Docket Number 2484CV00531 Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1-4 Filed 04/25/24 Page 19 of 26

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts County of Suffolk The Superior Court – Business Litigation Session

	(	CIVIL DOCKET#:	
Case:			
Project in January, 2010. This project into the BLS and for cases which has conference. Counsel should be premanagement conference. For a det to the Trial Court home page at: www.	ect is available ave not prevent to discuss ailed copy of the aile	clously had an initial case manage cuss the project with the Court at if the BLS Discovery Project, court/superior-court-business-litigation project, that party's counsel shou	w cases accepted ament the initial case insel are directed on-session)
(Check) Yes. (Party	is Name)	willing to participate in the Disc	overy Project.
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Docket Number CIVIL, DO	CKET#:		
Counsel For	e (Pagasar-lair salar), et el Pagasar-lair agont de la la lair es estado en la lair estado en la lair estado e	Date	material record to gray
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Assistant Clerk - BLS1 BLS1, Room 1309 3 Pemberton Square Boston, MA 02108	<u>OR</u>	Assistant Clerk - BLS2 BLS2, Room 1017 3 Pemberton Square Boston, MA 02108	

Date Filed 4/25/2024/5/172 FOLL Mase 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 74 of 141

Superior Court - Suffolk Docket Number 2484CV00531

Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1-4 Filed 04/25/24 Page 20 of 26

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

Case: 2484CV00531-BLS2	Court: Suffolk Superior Civil Court	County: , MA	<b>Job:</b> 10757417 (22544865)
Plaintiff / Petitioner: Angela Gonneville		Defendant / Respondent: Lens.com, Inc.	
Received by: One Legal, an InfoTrack Company		For: Phillips Garcia Law	
To be served upon: Lens.com, Inc.			

Recipient Name:

Karen Scott

Recipient Address: Business: 4730 S Fort Apache Rd Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147

Manner of Service: Business Serve, Mar 28, 2024, 8:59 am PDT

Documents:

Summons, Class Action Complaint, Civil Action Cover Sheet, Notice of Acceptance into Business Litigation Session

(BLS2), Demand Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 93A Section 9

#### Diligence / Comments:

1) Successful Attempt: Mar 28, 2024, 8:59 am PDT at Business: 4730 S Fort Apache Rd Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147 received by Karen Scott. Age: 55-60; Ethnicity: African American; Gender: Female; Weight: 150; Height: 5'4"; Hair: Black; Eyes: Black; Other: Served registered agent authorized except Documents, Karen Scott;

#### Statement(s):

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Reggie Mitchell

Date

03/29/2024

Registration: R-2019-12597

InfoTrack US, Inc. - P000634 1400 N McDowell Blvd, Suite 300 Petaluma, CA 94954 800-938-8815

Date Filed 4/8670002-5-020 FRAFFM ASE 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 75 of 141 Superior Court - Suffolk Docket Number 2484CV00531 Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1-4 Filed 04/25/24 Page 21 of 26 ML

#### **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

SUFFOLK, SS	SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION
ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually ) and on behalf of all others similarly situated, )	C.A. NO. 2484CV00531-BLS2
Plaintiff,	
v. ,	
LENS.COM, INC.,	
Defendant. )	

# ASSENTED TO MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO THE COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Angela Gonneville ("Plaintiff" or "Gonneville"), pursuant to Massachusetts Rule of Civil Procedure 6(b), hereby files this Stipulated Motion for Extension of Time to Respond to the above-captioned Class Action Complaint and, in support, states:

- 1. Plaintiff filed the Class Action Complaint on February 23, 2024.
- 2. Defendant was served with the Complaint on March 28, 2024, making its response due on April 17, 2024.
- 3. The Parties have agreed to extend the deadline for Defendant to respond to the Complaint to May 17, 2024.
- 4. This agreed request for an extension of time is made in good faith and not for purposes of delay. Given the early stage of this case, no party will be prejudiced by the request.

WHEREFORE, the Parties respectfully request that the Court enter an Order extending

the deadline for Defendant to respond to Plaintiff's Complaint to May 17, 2024.

DATED: April 3, 2024.

# RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

On behalf of the Plaintiff,

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin J. Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel. (508) 998-0800; Fax (508) 998-0919 cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

On behalf of the Defendant,

/s/ Jed H. Hansen

Jed H. Hansen Thorpe North & Western, LLP 175 South Main Street, Suite 900 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 801-566-6633 hansen@tnw.com

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Plaintiff's counsel, Carlin J. Phillips, hereby certifies that a copy of this document was served via email on April 4, 2024, to all counsel of record:

Jed H. Hansen Thorpe North & Western, LLP 175 South Main Street, Suite 900 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 801-566-6633 hansen@tnw.com

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin J. Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel. (508) 998-0800; Fax (508) 998-0919 cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

ML	
	NOTIFY
	COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
SUFFOLK, SS	SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION
ANGELA GONNEVI and on behalf of all of	LLE, individually ) C.A. NO. 2484CV00531-BLS2 hers similarly situated, )
Plaintiff,	}
v.	
LENS.COM, INC.,	
Defendant.	
AS	SENTED TO MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
	TO RESPOND TO THE COMPLAINT
Plaintiff Ange	la Gonneville ("Plaintiff" or "Gonneville"), pursuant to Massachusetts Rule
of Civil Procedure 6(	b), hereby files this Stipulated Motion for Extension of Time to Respond to
the above-captioned (	Class Action Complaint and, in support, states:
1. Plaintiff filed	the Class Action Complaint on February 23, 2024.
2. Defendant wa	s served with the Complaint on March 28, 2024, making its response due
on April 17, 2024.	
3. The Parties ha	ve agreed to extend the deadline for Defendant to respond to the Complaint
to May 17, 2024.	
4. This agreed re	quest for an extension of time is made in good faith and not for purposes of
delay. Given the early	stage of this case, no party will be prejudiced by the request.
WHEREFOR	the Parties respectfully request that the Court enter an Order extending
	17. 2024. Pui why - 8 April 2024

Case 1:24-qv-11110 Document 1-4 Filed 04/25/24 Page 25 of 26

the deadline for Defendant to respond to Plaintiff's Complaint to May 17, 2024.

DATED: April 3, 2024.

Locket Number 2484CV00531

# RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

On behalf of the Plaintiff,

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin J. Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel. (508) 998-0800; Fax (508) 998-0919 cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

On behalf of the Defendant,

/s/ Jed H. Hansen

Jed H. Hansen
Thorpe North & Western, LLP
175 South Main Street, Suite 900
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
801-566-6633
hansen@tnw.com

Docket Number 2484CV00531

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Plaintiff's counsel, Carlin J. Phillips, hereby certifies that a copy of this document was served via email on April 4, 2024, to all counsel of record:

Jed H. Hansen
Thorpe North & Western, LLP
175 South Main Street, Suite 900
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
801-566-6633
hansen@tnw.com

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin J. Phillips, BBO# 561916
Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084
PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C.
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Date Filed 4/25/2024 12:18 FMase 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 81 of 141

Superior Court - Suffolk Dock#944u(Rber02/48)4CV00531

Case 1:24-cv-111120 V 10 cure V 12 S File 1 04/25/24 Page 1 of 2

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS	(a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANTS		
Angela Gonney	Angela Gonneville				
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Bristol		County of Residence of First Listed Defendant			
	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES O		
		THE TRACT	ONDEMNATION CASES, USE TO OF LAND INVOLVED.	IIE LOCATION OF	
**	Address, and Telephone Number)	Attorneys (If Known)			
	Phillips & Garcia PC, 13 Ventura Dr., h, MA 02747, (508) 998-0800		lkman, Rubin and Rud \ 02109, (617) 330-71		
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSIIP OF PI (For Diversity Cases Only)	4	and One Box for Defendant)	
U.S. Government Plaintiff	U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citizen of This State	TF DEF  1 Incorporated or Pr  of Business In T		
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 Incorporated and I of Business In A		
		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country		☐ 6 ☐ 6 ————	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only) TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	Click here for: Nature of S  BANKRUPTCY	uit Code Descriptions. OTHER STATUTES	
110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJUI		422 Appeal 28 USC 158	375 False Claims Act	
120 Marine 130 Miller Act	310 Airplane 365 Personal Injury 315 Airplane Product Product Liability		423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a))	
140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability 367 Health Care/	, joye cales	INTELLECTUAL	400 State Reapportionment	
150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgmen	320 Assault, Libel & Pharmaceutical t Slander Personal Injury		PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights	410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking	
☐ 151 Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers' Product Liability		830 Patent	450 Commerce 460 Deportation	
152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	340 Marine Injury Product	di .	835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application	470 Racketeer Influenced and	
(Excludes Veterans)  153 Recovery of Overpayment	345 Marine Product Liability Liability PERSONAL PROPEI	RTY LABOR	840 Trademark	Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit	
of Veteran's Benefits	350 Motor Vehicle 370 Other Fraud	710 Fair Labor Standards	880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016	(15 USC 1681 or 1692)	
160 Stockholders' Suits   190 Other Contract	355 Motor Vehicle 371 Truth in Lending Product Liability 380 Other Personal	720 Labor/Management	SOCIAL SECURITY	485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act	
195 Contract Product Liability	360 Other Personal Property Damage		861 IIIA (1395ff)	490 Cable/Sat TV	
196 Franchise	Injury 385 Property Damage 362 Personal Injury - Product Liability		862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	850 Securities/Commodities/	
REAL PROPERTY	Medical Malpractice  CIVIL RIGHTS   PRISONER PETITIC	Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation	864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g))	890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts	
210 Land Condemnation	440 Other Civil Rights Habeas Corpus:	791 Employee Retirement		893 Environmental Matters	
220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	441 Voting 463 Alien Detainee 442 Employment 510 Motions to Vaca	Income Security Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	895 Freedom of Information Act	
240 Torts to Land	443 Housing/ Sentence	ac	or Defendant)	896 Arbitration	
245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	Accommodations 530 General 545 Amer. w/Disabilities - 535 Death Penalty	IMMIGRATION	871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of	
	Employment Other:	462 Naturalization Application		Agency Decision	
	446 Amer. w/Disabilities - 540 Mandamus & Ot Other 550 Civil Rights	her 465 Other Immigration Actions		950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
	448 Education 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee -				
	Conditions of				
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" i	in One Box Only)				
1 Original #2 Rea	moved from 3 Remanded from Appellate Court	4 Reinstated or 5 Transfer Reopened Another (specify,	District Litigation		
	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you				
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON 28 USC 1332 Brief description of cause:			<u> </u>	
	Putative consumer class action for breach of	contract and unjust enrichment			
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTIOUNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.	N DEMAND \$ restitution & damages	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:  * Yes \sum No	
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S) (See instructions):  UDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE		TORNEY OF RECORD			
4/25/2024	/s/ Theodore J. Fol	kman			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY					
RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	МАС. ЛЛ	OGE	

Date Filed 4/25/2024 12:18 Mase 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 82 of 141 Superior Court - Suffolk Docker Market 200531 Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1-5 Filed 04/25/24 Page 2 of 2

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

**Authority For Civil Cover Sheet** 

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
  - (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

  United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

  Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

  Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407

Multidistrict Litigation — Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

  Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.

  Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related cases, if any. If there are related cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

Date Filed 4/25/2024 12:18 PM ase 1:24-cv-11110-PBS Document 5 Filed 04/29/24 Page 83 of 141

Superior Court - Suffolk Docket Number 2484CV00531

Case 1:24-cv-11110 Document 1-6 Filed 04/25/24 Page 1 of 1

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Title of case (name of first party on each side only) Gonneville v. Lens.com, Inc.
2. Category in which the case belongs based upon the numbered nature of suit code listed on the civil cover sheet. (See local
rule 40.1(a)(1)).
I. 160, 400, 410, 441, 535, 830*, 835*, 850, 880, 891, 893, R.23, REGARDLESS OF NATURE OF SUIT.
II. 110, 130, 190, 196, 370, 375, 376, 440, 442, 443, 445, 446, 448, 470, 751, 820*, 840*, 895, 896, 899.
120, 140, 150, 151, 152, 153, 195, 210, 220, 230, 240, 245, 290, 310, 315, 320, 330, 340, 345, 350, 355, 360, 362
365, 367, 368, 371, 380, 385, 422, 423, 430, 450, 460, 462, 463, 465, 480, 485, 490, 510, 530, 540, 550, 555, 56
625, 690, 710, 720, 740, 790, 791, 861-865, 870, 871, 890, 950.
*Also complete AO 120 or AO 121. for patent, trademark or copyright cases.
<ol> <li>Title and number, if any, of related cases. (See local rule 40.1(g)). If more than one prior related case has been filed in this district please indicate the title and number of the first filed case in this court.</li> </ol>
4. Has a prior action between the same parties and based on the same claim ever been filed in this court?
YES NO
5. Does the complaint in this case question the constitutionality of an act of congress affecting the public interest? (See 28 USC §2403)
YES NO
If so, is the U.S.A. or an officer, agent or employee of the U.S. a party?  YES  NO
6. Is this case required to be heard and determined by a district court of three judges pursuant to title 28 USC §2284?  YES  NO
7. Do <u>all</u> of the parties in this action, excluding governmental agencies of the United States and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ("governmental agencies"), residing in Massachusetts reside in the same division? - (See Local Rule 40.1(d)).  YES  NO
A. If yes, in which division do all of the non-governmental parties reside?  Eastern Division Central Division Western Division
B. If no, in which division do the majority of the plaintiffs or the only parties, excluding governmental agencies, residing in Massachusetts reside?
Eastern Division Central Division Western Division
8. If filing a Notice of Removal - are there any motions pending in the state court requiring the attention of this Court? (If yes, submit a separate sheet identifying the motions)  YES  NO
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)
ATTORNEY'S NAME Theodore J. Folkman
ADDRESS Rubin and Rudman LLP, 53 State St., Boston, MA 02109
TELEPHONE NO. (617) 330-7135

(CategoryForm11-2020.wpd)

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk, ss.

Superior Court Department of the Trial Court

ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

V.

LENS.COM, INC.,

Defendant.

Civ. A, No. 2484CV00531-BLS2

# NOTICE OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Please take notice that the defendant, Lens.com, Inc., has removed this case to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts ("the District Court"). A copy of the Notice of Removal, which has been filed with the District Court, is attached to this Notice as Exhibit 1. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), this Court shall proceed no further unless and until the case is remanded.

Respectfully submitted,

LENS.COM, INC.

By its attorney:

/s/ Theodore J. Folkman

Theodore J. Folkman (BBO No. 647642) RUBIN AND RUDMAN LLP 53 State St. Boston, Mass. 02109 (617) 330-7135 tfolkman@rubinrudman.com

Dated: April 25, 2024

3820973\_1

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on April 25, 2024, I served this document by first-class mail, postage prepaid, and email on:

Carlin Phillips
<a href="mailto:cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com">cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com</a>
Andrew J. Garcia
<a href="mailto:agarcia@phillipsgarcia.com">agarcia@phillipsgarcia.com</a>
Phillips & Garcia, P.C.

13 Ventura Drive

North Dartmouth, MA 02747

/s/ Theodore J. Folkman

# **EXHIBIT 1**

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually
and on behalf of all others similarly
situated,

Plaintiff,

V.

LENS.COM, INC.,

Defendant.

Civ. A. No.

# DEFENDANT LENS.COM, INC.'S NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d), 1441, and 1446, Defendant Lens.com, Inc. ("Lens.com") hereby gives notice of the removal of the action captioned as *Angela Gonneville v. Lens.com, Inc.*, Docket No. 2484CV00531-BLS2, filed in the Suffolk Superior Court (the "State Action"), to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. The ground for removal is diversity of citizenship. In further support, Lens.com states as follows:

#### PROCEEDINGS IN STATE COURT

- 1. On February 23, 2024, Plaintiff Angela Gonneville filed the removed case, *Angela Gonneville v. Lens.com, Inc.*, Case No. 2484CV00531-BLS2, in the Suffolk Superior Court. A true and correct copy of the Class Action Complaint ("Complaint") is attached as **Exhibit A**. A true and correct copy of the Summons that issued is attached as **Exhibit B**.
- 2. Plaintiff served Lens.com on March 28, 2024, as reflected in the Affidavit of Service, attached as **Exhibit C**.

- A true and correct copy of the complete record in this action in Suffolk Superior
   Court is attached as Exhibit D.
- 4. Exhibits A-D constitute all the process, pleadings, and orders that are available from the public state court record in connection with Case No. 2484CV00531-BLS2, in the Suffolk Superior Court, as of the date of the filing of this Notice of Removal.

#### NATURE OF THE REMOVED ACTION

- Plaintiff alleges that she "is an individual who resides in Massachusetts." Compl.,
   ¶ 3. On information and belief, she is domiciled in Massachusetts.
- 6. Plaintiff alleges that Lens.com "is a Nevada corporation with its principal place of business in the State of Missouri." *Id.*, ¶ 4. In fact, Lens.com is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Nevada with its principal place of business in Nevada.
- 7. Plaintiff alleges that "Lens.com packs a junk fee into its transactions which it describes after the point of purchase as a 'processing fee.'" *Id.*, ¶¶ 13–17.
- 8. Plaintiff alleges that she was personally harmed in August 2019, when she purchased three boxes contact lenses for a total price of \$82.50. *Id.*, ¶ 20. According to Plaintiff, she paid an undisclosed processing charge of \$5.21. *Id*.
- 9. Plaintiff alleges that she was harmed again in May 2020, when she purchased another three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$164.05. *Id.*, ¶ 21. According to Plaintiff, she paid an undisclosed processing charge of \$22.57. *Id.*
- 10. Plaintiff alleges that she was harmed a third time in April 2021, when she purchased another three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$111.97. *Id.*, ¶ 22. According to Plaintiff, she paid an undisclosed processing charge of \$55.97. *Id.*

11. Plaintiff seeks to represent a putative class of Massachusetts consumers. Plaintiff defines her putative class as follows:

All consumers who purchased contact lenses in Massachusetts and were charged a processing or handling fee with the contact lens order in the six years preceding the filing of this Complaint. Id., ¶ 24.

- 12. Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the putative class, brings claims against Lens.com for Breach of Contract (Count I), Breach of the Duty of Good Faith and Fair Dealing (Count II), and Unjust Enrichment (Count III). *Id.*, ¶ 33–52.
- 13. Plaintiff seeks class-wide damages, including "compensatory damages and/or or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com ... as a result of [Lens.com's] unlawful, unfair, deceptive and unconscionable practices;" and "compensatory damages caused by Lens.com's breach of contract." *Id.* at 14. Plaintiff further seeks pre- and post-judgment interests, costs, and attorneys' fees. *Id.*
- 14. Plaintiff also sent Lens.com a demand letter dated March 26, 2024 ("Demand Letter") "pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 93A Section 9," attached as

  Exhibit E. In the Demand Letter, Plaintiff accuses Lens.com of "charging hidden and inflated junk fees in online purchases of contact lenses" and states that Lens.com has "thirty days after receipt of this letter to make a reasonable written tender of settlement or be exposed to potential treble damages and attorney's fees and costs." *Id.* Plaintiff further demands that Lens.com "identify all Massachusetts consumers for the last six years who were charged a processing and/or handling fee, the date of the fee(s) and the amounts(s)" and that Lens.com "agree to reimburse all identified Massachusetts consumers three times the amount of all processing and/or handling fees paid." *Id.*

15. In accordance with the Demand Letter, Plaintiff intends to amend the Complaint to include a claim under G.L. c. 93A, § 9 and will seek "three times the amount of all processing and/or handling fees paid," as well as attorney's fees.

#### REMOVAL TO THIS DISTRICT IS PROPER

- 16. The State Action can be properly removed this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a) because this Court is the United States District Court for the district embracing Suffolk County, the location where the State Action was pending.
- District Court for the District of Massachusetts, because an operative forum-selection clause requires the action be brought in Nevada. Thus, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a), Lens.com intends to move to transfer this action to the United States District Court for the District of Nevada, for two reasons. First, a nationwide class action was recently filed in Nevada and those claims overlap with the claims here. *See Franks v. Lens.com Inc.*, Case No. 2:24-cv-0724 (District of Nevada). Second, all parties to this action have consented to jurisdiction in Nevada in a forum-selection clause.

#### REMOVAL IS TIMELY

- 18. Plaintiff served Lens.com with a copy of the Complaint on March 28, 2024. See Ex. C, Affidavit of Service at 1.
- 19. Removal is timely under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b) because this Notice of Removal was filed on April 25, 2024, which is within 30 days of service of the Complaint.

#### **REMOVAL IS PROPER**

- 20. Removal is proper under the Class Action Fairness Act ("CAFA"), see 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), because this matter is a class action with minimally diverse parties, there is an aggregate amount in controversy in excess of \$5,000,000, and the number of proposed class members is more than 100.
- 21. First, the parties are at least minimally diverse. Plaintiff, who seeks to represent the class, is a citizen of Massachusetts. See Compl. ¶3 (alleging that Plaintiff is a resident of Massachusetts). Lens.com is not a Massachusetts citizen—it is headquartered in Nevada and incorporated under Nevada law. See Compl. ¶4; 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c)(1) ("[A] corporation shall be deemed to be a citizen of every State and foreign state by which it has been incorporated and of the State or foreign state where it has its principal place of business."). Because Plaintiff is a citizen of Massachusetts and Lens.com is a citizen of Nevada, the parties are at least minimally diverse. See 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2) ("The district courts shall have original jurisdiction of any civil action in which the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and is a class action in which [] any member of a class of plaintiffs is a citizen of a State different from any defendant.").
- 22. None of the CAFA exceptions to federal jurisdiction over a putative class action apply because the "primary defendant[]" or the defendant "from whom significant relief is sought"—Lens.com, the only named defendant in this action—is not a Massachusetts citizen. See 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(3)–(4).
- 23. Second, the amount in controversy requirement is met. To satisfy the amount-incontroversy requirement, a removing defendant needs to "include only a plausible allegation that

the amount in controversy exceeds the jurisdictional threshold." Dart Cherokee Basin Operating Co. v. Owens, 574 U.S. 81, 89 (2014). "Evidence establishing the amount" is not required to be included with the notice of removal but instead is required only "when the plaintiff contests, or the court questions, the defendant's allegation." Id.

- 24. "A defendant can satisfy its burden to establish the amount in controversy by a reasonable probability by relying on the face of the complaint in the underlying case, by alleging facts in its notice of removal to support its amount in controversy allegation, or by submitting summary judgment type evidence." *Khath v. Midland Funding, LLC*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 43493, at \*13 (D. Mass. Jan. 7, 2016) (citing *Composite Co. v. Am. Int'l Grp., Inc.*, 988 F. Supp. 2d 61, 74 (D. Mass. 2013)).
- 25. To determine the amount in controversy, the Court first looks to whether plaintiff made specific damage allegations in the complaint. See Coventry Sewage Assocs. v. Dworkin Realty Co., 71 F.3d 1, 6 (1st Cir. 1995). A court will determine the amount in controversy from the face of the complaint "unless it appears or is in some way shown that the amount stated in the complaint is not claimed in good faith." Coventry Sewage, 71 F.3d at 4 (quoting Horton v. Liberty Mut. Ins. Co., 367 U.S. 348, 353 (1961)). "[W]hen a plaintiff makes a claim under a statute including a damage multiplier, a court must apply that factor in evaluating the amount in controversy." Lucas v. Ultima Framingham LLC, 973 F. Supp. 2d 98, 2013 WL 5405668, at \*3 (D. Mass. 2013) (quoting Evans v. Yum Brands, Inc., 326 F. Supp. 2d 214, 222 (D.N.H. 2004)). The amount in controversy includes statutorily authorized attorneys' fees and multipliers of damages, such as the treble damages provision in Chapter 93A. See, e.g., Crandall v. Travelers Personal Sec. Ins. Co., 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 12106, at \*2 (D. Mass. Jan. 18, 2024); Santos v.

Preferred Mut. Ins. Co., 21 F. Supp. 3d 111, 116 n.2 (D. Mass. 2014); Williams v. Litton Loan Servicing, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 90689, at \*5 (D. Mass. Aug. 15, 2011).

- 26. Here, Plaintiff seeks "compensatory damages and/or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com from Plaintiff and the Class Members ... in an amount to be proven at trial." Compl. at 14. While Lens.com disputes Plaintiff's class definition, Plaintiff alleges that the class members include "[a]ll consumers who purchased contact lenses in Massachusetts and were charged a processing or handling fee with the contact lens order in the six years preceding the filing of this Complaint." *Id.*, ¶ 24. From 2018 to 2023, Lens.com estimates that its total sales in Massachusetts were approximately \$21,200,000. Thus, the "compensatory damages and/or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com from Plaintiff and the Class Members" exceeds the \$5 million threshold.
- 27. Plaintiff also seeks "compensatory damages caused by Lens.com's breach of contract." *Id.* at 14.
  - 28. Plaintiff also seeks "pre- and post-judgment interest." Compl. at 14.
- 29. Plaintiff also seeks "reasonable attorney' fees and costs." Compl. at 14. A court may consider potential attorney's fees as part of the amount-in-controversy calculation when "a statute mandates or allows the payment of such fees." *Dep't of Rec. & Sports of P.R. v. World Boxing Ass'n*, 942 F.2d 84, 89 (1st Cir. 1991).
- 30. Taken as a whole, the demands of the Complaint thus plausibly exceed the \$5 million threshold for federal jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d). *Dart*, 574 U.S. at 89.
- 31. In addition to these restitution and damages claims, Plaintiff also served a Demand

  Letter with its complaint indicting that Plaintiff intends to amend the Complaint to include a claim

under G.L. c. 93A, § 9. While these causes of action are not yet part of the complaint, these claims will also add to the damages claimed in this matter. The demand letter seeks "three times the amount of all processing and/or handling fees paid." From 2018 to 2023, Lens.com estimates that Massachusetts consumers paid approximately \$3,500,000 in processing fees. Three times the amount of all processing and or handling fees paid is approximately \$10,500,000. This alone would also satisfy the \$5 million threshold.

- 32. Third, because Lens.com is a well-established company that sells products to consumers across the country, the number of proposed class members is greater than 100. For example, based on the current class allegation in the complaint, Lens.com estimates that in 2023 alone, it sold products to over 7,000 customers in Massachusetts.
- 33. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), Lens.com will serve written notice of removal of this case on Plaintiff's counsel by first-class mail and email at the following addresses:

Carlin Phillips
<a href="mailto:cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com">cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com</a>
Andrew J. Garcia
<a href="mailto:agarcia.gom">agarcia@phillipsgarcia.com</a>
Phillips & Garcia, P.C.

13 Ventura Drive
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

- 34. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1446(d), Lens.com will promptly file a notice of filing of notice of removal with the Clerk of the Suffolk Superior Court.
- 35. The recitation of Plaintiff's allegation in this Notice of Removal is not a concession that Plaintiff's allegations or legal theories have merit. Lens.com reserves the right to assert all applicable defenses in this matter and denies that Plaintiff is entitled to any relief. By removing this matter, Lens.com does not waive and reserves any rights it may have, including,

without limitation, all available arguments and affirmative defenses. Lens.com does not concede that Plaintiff is entitled to any recovery whatsoever.

#### **CONCLUSION**

36. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d), 1441 and 1446, Lens.com hereby removes the above-captioned action from the Suffolk Superior Court to the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

LENS.COM, INC.

By its attorneys:

/s/ Theodore J. Folkman

Theodore J. Folkman (BBO No. 647642) RUBIN AND RUDMAN LLP 53 State St. Boston, Mass. 02109 (617) 330-7135 tfolkman@rubinrudman.com

Mark Bettilyon (pro hac vice forthcoming)
Jed Hansen (pro hac vice forthcoming)
THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, LLP
The Walker Center
175 S. Main Street, Suite 900
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
(801) 566-6633
mark.bettilyon@tnw.com

Dated: April 25, 2024

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, SS

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION

ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated

Plaintiff

V.

LENS.COM, INC.

Defendant

Defendant

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION

(IVIL ACTION NO.

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)

LENS.COM, INC.

)

Defendant

# **CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, brings this Class Action Complaint for damages for unfair and deceptive sales practices committed by Defendant, Lens.com, Inc.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- 1. This is a consumer class action case involving an undisclosed junk fee that Lens.com charges as part of online contact lens orders. More particularly, Lens.com adds an undisclosed and non-itemized "processing charge" to contact lens orders after customers have already filled out the details of their contact lens orders. Lens.com has received numerous complaints regarding this undisclosed charge.
- 2. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class of consumers in Massachusetts who have paid an undisclosed processing or handling charge on their contact lens order. Given the amount of the

fees at issue and given the number of potential consumers impacted, a class action is the most judicially efficient manner of adjudicating this dispute.

# PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. Plaintiff, Angela Gonneville ("Plaintiff" or "Ms. Gonneville"), is an individual who resides in Massachusetts.
- 4. Defendant, Lens.com, Inc. ("Lens.com" or "Defendant"), is a Nevada corporation with its principal place of business in the State of Missouri.
- 5. The Court has original jurisdiction over the civil claims alleged in Plaintiff's Complaint pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 212 § 4.
- 6. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Lens.com pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 223 § 3 because Lens.com conducts significant business in Massachusetts, namely through the marketing, advertising, selling and delivery of contacts lens products in Massachusetts to consumers such as Plaintiff.
- 7. Likewise, venue is proper here as the defendant markets, advertises, sells and delivers contacts lens products to Massachusetts consumers in this county.

# FACTUAL BACKGROUND

#### The Business of Lens.com

- 8. Lens.com is an online seller of contact lenses and claims that it provides consumers "the best way to buy contact lenses better than your eye doctor, better than big box, better than other websites." Lens.com further claims that it offers the lowest prices of any contact lens seller online or in-store and that most orders ship within 24 hours.
- 9. Lens.com markets its contact lenses as having "Year Round *Unbeatable* Prices."
  On its website it states that it has delivered over 691 million contact lenses. It further touts that,

"With over 35 Million contact lenses in stock, we immediately fill your order with your exact prescription."

10. In a FAQ (frequently asked question) on its website entitled, "How much does shipping cost?", Lens.com states: "At Lens.com we don't bury the cost of shipping in every box we sell. We are completely transparent and let you decide what's best for you. We offer you reliable shipping at extremely competitive prices/rates. You will be able to select the best method for your personal needs at checkout." It then includes a chart of shipping costs within the United States, Canada and Internationally. Nowhere under its description of shipping costs is there mention of a "processing" or "handling" fee of any kind. A search of the words "Processing Fee" on Lens.com's website yields no information.

# The Proliferation of Junk Fees in Online Consumer Transactions

- 11. Retailers, like Lens.com, are increasingly charging consumers "junk fees" in online transactions to increase profits. "Junk Fees" are defined by the Federal Trade Commission as "unnecessary, unavoidable, or surprise charges that inflate costs while adding little to no value." The FTC notes that "[c]onsumers can get hit with junk fees at any stage of the purchase or payment process. Companies often harvest junk fees by imposing them on captive consumers or by deploying digital dark patterns and other tricks to hide or mask them." https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2022/10/federal-trade-commission-explores-rule-cracking-down-junk-fees.
- 12. Common junk fees are convenience fees, processing fees, resort fees, service fees and overdraft fees. The White House recently issued a junk fee guide for the states noting how junk fees have overrun the American economy and are "often not disclosed upfront and only revealed after a consumer has decided to buy something, obscure true prices and dilute the forces

of market competition that are the bedrock of the U.S. economy." https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/WH-Junk-Fees-Guide-for-States.pdf

#### Lens.com's Sales Practices and Junk Fees

- 13. Lens.com's marketing materials state that "we don't bury the cost of shipping in every box we sell. We are completely transparent and let you decide what's best for you. We offer you reliable shipping at extremely competitive prices/rates. You will be able to select the best method for your personal needs at checkout."
- 14. Despite these claims, Lens.com packs a junk fee into its transactions which it describes after the point of purchase as a "processing fee." This processing fee is separate from its shipping fee, which in the Plaintiff's case was either free or \$7.95.
- 15. Lens.com fails to disclose or itemize its processing fee during online transactions and inflates the total transaction price by the amount of the hidden processing fee at the end of the transaction when a consumer's credit card is being processed. These hidden fees add to the total product price but are not disclosed at any point in the cycle of the transaction, in marketing materials, frequently asked questions on Lens.com's website or in product pricing disclosures.
- 16. In some transactions, Lens.com never discloses the existence or amount of its processing fee. In other transactions the hidden fees are only disclosed on a packing slip provided to the consumer when the product is delivered. In those circumstances, the hidden fees are listed as "PROCESSING" or as "Shipping & Handling" fees.
- 17. The amount of the processing fee charged by Lens.com varies greatly and from transaction to transaction. The Plaintiff's processing fees were \$55.97, \$22.57 and \$5.21.
- 18. Numerous online complaints made by Lens.com customers describe processing fees that are over \$100. The below listed consumer complaints made to Complaints Board, an

online consumer complaint center, describe Lens.com's surprise processing fee. Each consumer referenced below contacted the Defendant's customer service line to complain about the processing fee and, accordingly, these complaints constitute notice and knowledge to the Defendant of the unfair and deceptive nature of their processing and other fees. The online complaints state in relevant part:

# **Processing Fees**

Contact lenses were ordered for my child over the phone in February of 2021. The bill received did not break out the \$103 processing fee for an order of \$107 in contacts. The processing fee did not include shipping fees. This was discovered when trying to tally the order for reimbursement by the child's father months later and the lens cost did not add up to the total. When contacting the company the only adjustment offered was a \$7.95 shipping credit. The price of contacts was severely misrepresented due to the arbitrary and, per customer service, ever changing "processing fees". (Chobbs 1411 of US; August 27, 2021)

# Lens.com review: Astronomical processing fee for contact lens order.

Customer since 2014... Last order placed 12/26/2020 and was charged processing fee of \$110.38... I immediately contacted the company and was simply told "that was their processing fee"... I escalated the issue as I have never paid more than \$35.96 for a processing fee (last order was 8/2020 and fee was \$29.54)... Continued to reach out via email and was finally told on Jan 3rd that my complaint was escalated to leadership... I reached out again on Jan 11, 12 and now this morning and have never been contacted back... I am now in the process of disputing charge with the credit card company... I have included the processing fees paid so you can see for yourself the ridiculous amount charged this last order:

4-2014 \$18.16 3-2015 \$26.47 8-2015 \$26.11 9-2016 \$35.96 9-2017 \$25.51 9-2018 \$25.99 12-2019 \$27.51 8-2020 \$29.54 12-2020 \$110.38

I understand I owe for the contacts but I refuse to pay that amount for processing! (juhnklo of US; January 15, 2021)

# Extraordinarily high processing fee.

On July 7, 2023, I submitted an order and paid \$220 for 4 boxes of contacts. A bargain so I thought, because I would also get a \$75 rebate. Again, so I thought. Imagine my surprise when I see I was charged \$330 for my order due to a huge \$120 processing fee. Apparently the 'submit order' button appears before the processing fee (which requires you to scroll down past the submit order so you don't see the additional fee.) It doesn't appear on the consumers invoice on their site, but somehow when you questions it, the Customer service people are able to produce an invoice showing the fee. They claim it is automatically added 'by the system' and they cannot refund any portion of it. The processing fee was more than 50% of my total purchase and in reading the complaints about them, they take so long to issue the \$75 rebate that the expiration date is so close or past, rendering it useless as it is a visa gift card. These complaints date back to 2014 and nothing has changed. Below is the invoice AFTER the order was submitted. (K. Lennon, Rochdale, MA; July 18, 2023)

# Lens.com added 85% to my order in "tax & fees"

intended to purchase 4 boxes of contact lenses at \$31.74 per box. They advertised \$9.24 per box if I ordered 8 boxes, which would have been \$73.92, instead of \$253. 92. When I clicked "checkout" the total was\$485.79! They added \$213.92 in "tax & fees", which is an additional 85%.

I clicked the "chat 24/7" line and the rep did everything possible to avoid explaining what "fees" were, since tax would be no more than \$22 in any state. I had to ask SIX TIMES, but he finally was forced to admit that "fees" were: "This includes calling your doctor on your behalf, doctor's fees since we need to verify your prescription, and handling and processing your order. If the customer has a valid prescription, there is no need to call the doctor. Tax would have been \$20 so the "rebate" which was applied to the order, tax and their undisclosed "fees" added 85% to the cost of the order. I told them that was fraud and they lost my business. (Gail Reznik of US; March 26, 2023)

### Hidden taxes and fees

When I went to re-order my contacts at Lens.com I noticed advertised pricing and total cost didn't add up. I went to order my 8 boxes so I would get the \$160 RB. Listed at \$42.79 per box before RB (22.79 after RB) times the required 8 boxes = 342.32 (\$182.32 after RB)plus \$9.95 Shipping. This should make for a grand total of \$352.27( before RB). At check out total came up as \$566.19! Call Lens.com, spoke with a rep. I was told to go back to the shipping page, there they show a "Taxes & fees" of 213.92! Contacts are NOT taxable! They are a rip off company with miss leading and Illegal sales tactics. I've used them several times in the past and had not been charged these taxes & fees, I will no longer purchase from them and will

tell others of my bad experience. (Sharon McD of Levittown, US; March 1, 2023.

# Lens.com review: Deceptive fees and rebate hurdles

Customer since 2014, but noticed a huge disparity in cost when initiating my most recent order. Without a rebate, they show \$72.24 per 90-lens box of 1-day lenses. Buy 8 boxes and the price (after rebate) is shown as \$35.99 and rebate as \$290. Great. The next screen in the checkout asks you to confirm where you want the boxes sent with a 'continue' button below it. When you accidentally scroll below that, you see a blowout of the order, with a whopping \$241.92 in taxes and fees that "are compensation for servicing your order". That's the only place they show the added taxes/fees. If you click 'continue' and approve where to send the boxes, you miss that, because the final checkout screen never shows that added charge in its summary of your order. ... This is deceptive. (eyecu of Seattle, US; January 12, 2023)

# Ridiculous fee added without my knowledge

I just learned that they added a \$50 fee for for processing on an \$80 order. And the customer rep could not explain what the processing fee was for. What a ripoff! (thomassu of Centerville, US; December 5, 2022)

19. These consumer complaints describe in detail the repeated notice that Lens.com has received from consumers about its hidden processing fees and demonstrate its continued use of unfair and deceptive acts and practices to create revenue from junk fees.

# Plaintiff's Transactions

- 20. Plaintiff's transactions with Lens.com highlight the deceptive nature of Lens.com's business practices. In August 2019, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$77.29 with free shipping. The subtotal that was charged to Plaintiff, however, was \$82.50, which included a \$5.21 undisclosed processing charge. The "processing fee" was only disclosed on the packing form delivered with the contact lenses.
- 21. Likewise, in May 2020, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$141.48 with free shipping. The subtotal that was charged to Plaintiff, however, was

\$164.05, which thus included a \$22.57 undisclosed processing charge. The packing form received when the contact lenses were delivered indicated a charge of \$30.52 for "shipping & Handling."

- 22. Similarly, in April 2021, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses with a total price of \$55.97 and free shipping. However, the subtotal charged to Plaintiff was \$111.97 and thus included an undisclosed processing charge of \$55.97. The one-page packing form received when the contact lenses were delivered did not itemize the transaction charges or disclose the amount of the processing fee.
- 23. Plaintiff ultimately complained to Lens.com about the processing charges and was told that the processing fee used to be disclosed on the website but had been removed, there had been recent changes to the website but the fee was still not disclosed, the failure to disclose the processing fee has been reported to IT by several other agents and that Lens.com was trying to get that back up on the website.

# **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

24. Pursuant to Massachusetts Rule of Civil Procedure 23, Plaintiff brings this class action individually and on behalf of the following proposed class of persons, initially defined as:

All consumers who purchased contact lenses in Massachusetts and were charged a processing or handling fee with their contact lens order in the six years preceding the filing of this Complaint. (hereinafter the "Class").

The Class does not include Defendant; any affiliate, parent or subsidiary of Defendant; any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest; any officer, director or employee of Defendant; any successor or assign of Defendant; Plaintiff's counsel or anyone employed by Plaintiff's counsel in this action and their immediate families; any judge to whom this case is assigned and any member

of his/her immediate family and staff; governmental entities; or individuals who have personal injury claims as a result of conduct and/or defects alleged herein.

25. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend or supplement the Class descriptions with greater specificity or further division into subclasses or limitation to certain issues, after conducting discovery in this matter. Plaintiff also reserves the right to amend or supplement the proposed Class after conducting discovery in this matter.

# **Rule 23 Class Certification Requirements**

- 26. Numerosity of the Class The members of the Class are so numerous that their individual joinder is impracticable. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that Lens.com processed tens or hundreds of thousands of contact lens orders and included an undisclosed processing fee with those orders. Adjudication of the claims in a class action context will provide substantial benefits to the parties and the Court.
- 27. Commonality and Predominance Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over questions affecting only individual Class members, as is required by Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(2) and (b)(3). These common questions include, but are not limited to:
  - a) whether Lens.com engaged in the conduct alleged herein;
  - b) whether Defendant failed to adequately disclose a processing and/or handling fee prior to the completion of an online order for contact lenses;
  - c) whether Defendant's undisclosed processing and/or handling fee inflated the product price;
  - d) whether Defendant's processing and/or handling fees exceeded actual costs and constituted a hidden profit for Defendant;
  - e) whether Plaintiff and Class Members suffered out-of-pocket losses as a result of Defendant's actions and/or inactions alleged herein, and if so, how much;

- f) whether Plaintiff and Class Members will suffer out-of-pocket losses as a result of Defendant's alleged actions and/or inactions alleged herein, and if so, how much.
- 28. Typicality The claims of the representative Plaintiff are typical of the claims of each member of the Class, thus satisfying Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3). Plaintiff, like all other members of the Class, have sustained damages arising from Lens.com's violations of the laws, as alleged herein. The representative Plaintiff and the members of the Class were and are similarly or identically harmed by the same unlawful, deceptive, unfair, systematic, and pervasive pattern of misconduct engaged in by Lens.com. Plaintiff's claims arise from the same practices and course of conduct that give rise to the claims of all other members of the Class.
- 29. Adequacy The representative Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class Members and have retained counsel who are experienced and competent trial lawyers in complex litigation and class action litigation, thus satisfying Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4). There are no material conflicts between the claims of the representative Plaintiff and the members of the Class that would make class certification inappropriate. Counsel for the Class will vigorously assert the claims of all Class members.
- 30. **Declaratory or Injunctive Relief** Lens.com has acted and refused to act on grounds generally applicable to Plaintiff and Members of the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief appropriate regarding the Class as a whole. Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2).
- 31. Superiority This suit may be maintained as a class action under Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3), because a class action is superior to any other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this dispute and no unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in its management of this class action. The damages suffered by individual class members are small in comparison to the burden and expense of individually litigating each claim and based on the

complex and extensive litigation needed to address Spirit's conduct. Further, it would be virtually impossible for the Class Members to individually redress effectively the wrongs done to them. Even if Class Members themselves could afford such individual litigation, the court system could not. In addition, individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties and to the court system resulting from complex legal and factual issues of the case. Individualized litigation also presents a potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments. By contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties; allows the hearing of claims which might otherwise go unaddressed because of the relative expense of bringing individual lawsuits; and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

32. Ascertainability: Upon information and belief, the precise number of Class Members may be ascertained from Lens.com's records. Plaintiff contemplates the eventual issuance of notice to the proposed Class members setting forth the nature of the instant action. Upon information and belief, Class members may be notified of this action by recognized, Court approved notice dissemination methods, which may include U.S. mail, electronic mail, Internet postings, social media, and published notices, in addition to Lens.com's own business records.

# COUNT I BREACH OF CONTRACT

- 33. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 34. Plaintiff's and other Class members' purchase of contact lenses constituted a contract between them and Lens.com, namely through the terms and conditions on the Lens.com

site. The terms and conditions do not mention a processing charge for online orders of contact lenses.

- 35. Plaintiff and the Class Members performed all requirements under their agreements with Lens.com, namely the payment of the amount charged by Lens.com for the order.
- 36. Lens.com breached its agreement with Plaintiff and the Class Members when it charged a hidden processing fee in connection with the contact lens orders.
- 37. Plaintiff and members of the Class have suffered an injury through the payment of the processing fee.
- 38. Plaintiff and Class members are therefore entitled to all incidental, consequential, and indirect damages resulting from Lens.com's breach of contract. Lens.com's breach caused damages to Plaintiff and the Class Members.
- 39. Plaintiff and the Class Members seek to recover all permitted damages and their attorneys' fees caused by Defendant's breach.

# COUNT II BREACH OF THE DUTY OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING

- 40. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 41. The Defendant had an obligation to exercise of duty of good faith and fair dealing when transacting business with Plaintiff and the Class.
- 42. The Plaintiff and the Class made purchases at Lens.com's online website. Lens.com advertised, disclosed and charged a specific price for each contact lens purchase. It claimed that it had the lowest contact lens prices.

- 43. However, the Defendant, as matter a pattern and practice, assessed hidden junk fees to consumer's transaction which it labeled as processing and/or handling fees. These fees were not described on the Defendant's website or as part of the sale.
  - 44. In addition, these junk fees varied from transaction to transaction.
- 45. The junk fees were charged to Plaintiff's credit and debit cards, thereby driving up the actual costs of their contact lens purchases.
- 46. Lens.com used these hidden fees, which do not purport to approximate actual expenses incurred, as a hidden profit center. Not including these hidden fees in the product price allowed Lens.com to falsely claim that it had the lowest prices.
- 47. Lens.com's pattern and practice of charging its consumers hidden junk fees in its transactions constituted a breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing it owed to consumers as part of the transactions.
- 48. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendant's acts and/or omissions, the Plaintiff and the Class suffered damages.

# COUNT III <u>UNJUST ENRICHMENT</u>

- 49. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 50. Plaintiff and the Class Members conferred substantial benefits on Lens.com by purchasing contact lenses and by paying processing charges to Lens.com.
- 51. Lens.com knowingly and willingly accepted and enjoyed those benefits.

  Lens.com's retention of these benefits is inequitable and would be against good conscience
- 52. As a direct and proximate cause of Lens.com's unjust enrichment, Plaintiff and the Class Members are entitled to restitution, attorneys' fees, costs and interest.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, pray for a judgment against Defendant as follows:

- a. For an order certifying the Class, appointing Plaintiff as Representative of the Class, and appointing the law firm representing Plaintiff as counsel for the Class;
- b. For compensatory damages and/or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com from Plaintiff and the Class Members as a result of the Company's unlawful, unfair, deceptive and unconscionable practices described herein in an amount to be proven at trial;
- c. For compensatory damages caused by Lens.com's breach of contract with Plaintiff and the Class Members to the extent permitted by law in an amount to be proven at trial;
  - d. Both pre-and post-judgment interest on any amounts awarded;
  - e. Payment of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by law;
  - f. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

The Plaintiff requests a trial by jury on all claims.

On behalf of the Plaintiff and the Putative Class,

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive North Dartmouth, MA 02747 (508) 998-0800 (508) 998-0919 (fax) cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

Summons	CIVIL DOCKET NO. 2484CV00531-BLS2	Trial Court of Massachu The Superior Court	usetts 🕡
CASENAME: Angela Gonneville, individu others similarly situa Lens.com, Inc.		John E. Powers III Suffolk  COURT NAME & ADDRESS: Suffolk Superior Civil Court Three Pemberton Square Boston, MA. 02108	ACTING Clerk of Courts County
	Defendant(s)		

You are being sued. The Plaintiff(s) named above has started a lawsuit against you. A copy of the Plaintiff's Complaint filed against you is attached to this Summons and the original Complaint has been filed in the Suffolk County Superior Court.

YOU MUST ACT PROMPTLY TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.

(Defendant's name)

#### 1. You must respond to this lawsuit in writing within 20 days.

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO Lens.com. Inc.

If you do not respond, the Court may decide the case against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the Complaint. You will also lose the opportunity to tell your side of the story. You must respond to this lawsuit in writing even if you expect to resolve this matter with the Plaintiff. If you need more time to respond, you may request an extension of time in writing from the Court.

#### 2. How to Respond.

To respond to this lawsuit, you must file a written response with the Court and mail a copy to the Plaintiff's attorney (or the Plaintiff, if unrepresented). You can do this by:

a) Filing your **signed original** response with the Clerk's Office for Civil Business, Suffolk County Superior Court Business Litigation Session\*2, Room 1017, 3 Pemberton Sq., Buston, MA 02108 (address), by mail, in person, or electronically through

the web portal www.eFileMA.com if the Complaint was e-filed through that portal, AND

b) Delivering or mailing a copy of your response to the Plaintiff's attorney/Plaintiff at the following address: Carlin J. Phillips, Esq., Phillips & Garcia, P.C.
13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747

#### 3. What to Include in Your Response.

An "Answer" is one type of response to a Complaint. Your Answer must state whether you agree or disagree with the fact(s) alleged in each paragraph of the Complaint. Some defenses, called affirmative defenses, must be stated in your Answer or you may lose your right to use them in Court. If you have any claims against the Plaintiff (referred to as "counterclaims") that are based on the same facts or transaction described in the Complaint, then you must include those claims in your Answer. Otherwise, you may lose your right to sue the Plaintiff about anything related to this lawsuit. If you want to have your case heard by a jury, you must specifically request a jury tria in your Court no more than 10 days after sending your Answer.

3. (cont.) Another way to respond to a Complaint is by filing a "Motion to Dismiss," if you believe that the Complaint is legally invalid or legally insufficient. A Motion to Dismiss must be based on one of the legal deficiencies or reasons listed under Rule 12 of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure. If you are filing a Motion to Dismiss, you must follow the filing rules for "Civil Motions in Superior Court," available at:  Www.mass.gov/law-library/massachusetts-superior-court-rules
4. Legal Assistance.
You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you cannot get legal help, some basic information for people who represent themselves is available at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/courts/selfhelp">www.mass.gov/courts/selfhelp</a> .
5. Required Information on All Filings.
The "Civil Docket No." appearing at the top of this notice is the case number assigned to this case and must appear on the front of your Answer or Motion to Dismiss. You should refer to yourself as the "Defendant."
Witness Hon. Michael D. Ricciuti , Chief Justice on , 20 . (Seal)
Acting Clerk July 65
Note: The docket number assigned to the original Complaint by the Clerk should be stated on this Summons before it is served on the Defendant(s).
PROOF OF SERVICE OF PROCESS
I hereby certify that on, I served a copy of this Summons, together with a copy of the Complaint in this action, on the Defendant named in this Summons, in the following manner (See Rule 4(d)(1-5) of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure):
Dated: Signature:
N.B. TO PROCESS SERVER: PLEASE ENTER THE DATE THAT YOU MADE SERVICE ON THE DEFENDANT IN THIS BOX - BOTH ON THE ORIGINAL
SUMMONS AND ON THE COPY OF THE SUMMONS SERVED ON THE DEFENDANT.
Date:

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

Case: 2484CV00531-BLS2	Court: Suffolk Superior Civil Court	County: Job: 10757417			
Plaintiff / Petitioner: Angela Gonneville		Defendant / Respondent: Lens.com, Inc.			
Received by: One Legal, an InfoTrack Company		For: Phillips Garcia Law			
To be served upon: Lens.com, inc.					

Recipient Name: Karen Scott

Recipient Address: Business: 4730 S Fort Apache Rd Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147

Manner of Service: Business Serve, Mar 28, 2024, 8:59 am PDT

Documents: Summons, Class Action Complaint, Civil Action Cover Sheet, Notice of Acceptance into Business Litigation Session

(BLS2), Demand Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 93A Section 9

#### Diligence / Comments:

1) Successful Attempt: Mar 28, 2024, 8:59 am PDT at Business: 4730 S Fort Apache Rd Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147 received by Karen Scott. Age: 55-60; Ethnicity: African American; Gender: Female; Weight: 150; Height: 5'4"; Hair: Black; Eyes: Black; Other: Served registered agent authorized except Documents, Karen Scott;

#### Statement(s):

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Reggie Mitchell

Date

03/29/2024

Registration: R-2019-12597

InfoTrack US, Inc. - P000634 1400 N McDowell Blvd, Suite 300 Petaluma, CA 94954 800-938-8815

# 2484CV00531 Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated vs. Lens.com

Events				
				More Party Information
Alias			Party Attorney	THE HARMAN AS A STATE OF THE ST
<b>_ens.com</b> Defendant			. 414	
			- 1 (000) 500-0000	More Party Information
			<ul><li>Phone Number</li><li>(508)998-0800</li></ul>	
			13 Ventura Drive Dartmouth, MA 02747	
			<ul><li>Address</li><li>Phillips and Garcia, PC</li></ul>	
			<ul><li>Bar Code</li><li>561916</li></ul>	an (hand) and
			<ul> <li>Phillips, Esq., Carlin John</li> </ul>	1
			• (508)998-0800 • Attorney	
			North Dartmouth, MA 02747  Phone Number	
			<ul> <li>Phillips and Garcia, PC</li> <li>13 Ventura Drive</li> </ul>	
			<ul><li>559084</li><li>Address</li></ul>	1
			<ul><li>Garcia, Esq., Andrew J</li><li>Bar Code</li></ul>	
6** 0. 1/ \$ 8/4 vi#			Party Attorney  Attorney	free
- Plaintiff Alias			Party Attornov	
Angela Gonnev		and on behalf of a	ll others similarly situated	-
Party Inform	ation			
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- Special Track itiating Action:				
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## perior Court - Suntolk Caseas: 24:24-61/11/11/11/15 December 1-4 Filed 04/29/24 Page 21/4 2/61/41 pcket Number 2484CV00531

Result Session Location **Event Judge** Date Туре 08/28/2024 02:00 **Business** BOS-10th FL, CR 1017 BLS Rule 16 Litigation Control Squires-Lee, Hon. Debra A PM Litigation 2 (SC) Conference

Docket Date	Docket Text	File Ref Nbr.	Image Avail.
02/23/2024	Complaint electronically filed.	1	<b>(2)</b>
02/23/2024	Civil action cover sheet filed.	2	lmage
02/23/2024	Attorney appearance On this date Carlin John Phillips, Esq. added for Plaintiff Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated		<u>lmage</u>
02/23/2024	Attorney appearance On this date Andrew J Garcia, Esq. added for Plaintiff Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated		
02/26/2024	Docket Note: (1) summons sent by mail.		
	Applies To: Garcia, Esq., Andrew J (Attorney) on behalf of Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated (Plaintiff)		
02/26/2024	General correspondence regarding Notice of Acceptance into Business Litigation Session Accepted into BLS2 (Dated 2/26/2024) Notice sent 2/26/2024	3	[mage
03/13/2024	The following form was generated:		
	Notice to Appear - BLS Sent On: 03/13/2024 11:45:29		
04/02/2024	Service Returned for	4	<b>a</b>
	Applies To: Lens.com (Defendant)		<u>Image</u>
04/04/2024	Plaintiff Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated's Assented to Motion for Extension Of Time To Respond To The Complaint	5	<b>Ø</b> Image
04/09/2024	Endorsement on Motion for extension of time to respond to the complaint (#5.0): ALLOWED Allowed to May 17, 2024. (dated 4/8/2024) Notice sent 4/9/24		<u>Image</u>
04/23/2024	The following form was generated:		5-1-1
	Notice to Appear - BLS Sent On: 04/23/2024 14:44:28		

#### **Case Disposition**

<u>Disposition</u>

Date

Case Judge

Pending

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, SS

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION

ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually CIVIL ACTION NO.

and on behalf of all others similarly situated

Plaintiff

V.

LENS.COM, INC.

Defendant

Defendant

#### **CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, Angela Gonneville, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, brings this Class Action Complaint for damages for unfair and deceptive sales practices committed by Defendant, Lens.com, Inc.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- 1. This is a consumer class action case involving an undisclosed junk fee that Lens.com charges as part of online contact lens orders. More particularly, Lens.com adds an undisclosed and non-itemized "processing charge" to contact lens orders after customers have already filled out the details of their contact lens orders. Lens.com has received numerous complaints regarding this undisclosed charge.
- 2. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class of consumers in Massachusetts who have paid an undisclosed processing or handling charge on their contact lens order. Given the amount of the

fees at issue and given the number of potential consumers impacted, a class action is the most judicially efficient manner of adjudicating this dispute.

#### PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. Plaintiff, Angela Gonneville ("Plaintiff" or "Ms. Gonneville"), is an individual who resides in Massachusetts.
- 4. Defendant, Lens.com, Inc. ("Lens.com" or "Defendant"), is a Nevada corporation with its principal place of business in the State of Missouri.
- 5. The Court has original jurisdiction over the civil claims alleged in Plaintiff's Complaint pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 212 § 4.
- 6. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Lens.com pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 223 § 3 because Lens.com conducts significant business in Massachusetts, namely through the marketing, advertising, selling and delivery of contacts lens products in Massachusetts to consumers such as Plaintiff.
- 7. Likewise, venue is proper here as the defendant markets, advertises, sells and delivers contacts lens products to Massachusetts consumers in this county.

#### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

#### The Business of Lens.com

- 8. Lens.com is an online seller of contact lenses and claims that it provides consumers "the best way to buy contact lenses better than your eye doctor, better than big box, better than other websites." Lens.com further claims that it offers the lowest prices of any contact lens seller online or in-store and that most orders ship within 24 hours.
- 9. Lens.com markets its contact lenses as having "Year Round *Unbeatable* Prices."
  On its website it states that it has delivered over 691 million contact lenses. It further touts that,

"With over 35 Million contact lenses in stock, we immediately fill your order with your exact prescription."

shipping cost?", Lens.com states: "At Lens.com we don't bury the cost of shipping in every box we sell. We are completely transparent and let you decide what's best for you. We offer you reliable shipping at extremely competitive prices/rates. You will be able to select the best method for your personal needs at checkout." It then includes a chart of shipping costs within the United States, Canada and Internationally. Nowhere under its description of shipping costs is there mention of a "processing" or "handling" fee of any kind. A search of the words "Processing Fee" on Lens.com's website yields no information.

#### The Proliferation of Junk Fees in Online Consumer Transactions

- 11. Retailers, like Lens.com, are increasingly charging consumers "junk fees" in online transactions to increase profits. "Junk Fees" are defined by the Federal Trade Commission as "unnecessary, unavoidable, or surprise charges that inflate costs while adding little to no value." The FTC notes that "[c]onsumers can get hit with junk fees at any stage of the purchase or payment process. Companies often harvest junk fees by imposing them on captive consumers or by deploying digital dark patterns and other tricks to hide or mask them." https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2022/10/federal-trade-commission-explores-rule-cracking-down-junk-fees.
- 12. Common junk fees are convenience fees, processing fees, resort fees, service fees and overdraft fees. The White House recently issued a junk fee guide for the states noting how junk fees have overrun the American economy and are "often not disclosed upfront and only revealed after a consumer has decided to buy something, obscure true prices and dilute the forces

of market competition that are the bedrock of the U.S. economy." <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/WH-Junk-Fees-Guide-for-States.pdf">https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/WH-Junk-Fees-Guide-for-States.pdf</a>

#### Lens.com's Sales Practices and Junk Fees

- 13. Lens.com's marketing materials state that "we don't bury the cost of shipping in every box we sell. We are completely transparent and let you decide what's best for you. We offer you reliable shipping at extremely competitive prices/rates. You will be able to select the best method for your personal needs at checkout."
- 14. Despite these claims, Lens.com packs a junk fee into its transactions which it describes after the point of purchase as a "processing fee." This processing fee is separate from its shipping fee, which in the Plaintiff's case was either free or \$7.95.
- 15. Lens.com fails to disclose or itemize its processing fee during online transactions and inflates the total transaction price by the amount of the hidden processing fee at the end of the transaction when a consumer's credit card is being processed. These hidden fees add to the total product price but are not disclosed at any point in the cycle of the transaction, in marketing materials, frequently asked questions on Lens.com's website or in product pricing disclosures.
- 16. In some transactions, Lens.com never discloses the existence or amount of its processing fee. In other transactions the hidden fees are only disclosed on a packing slip provided to the consumer when the product is delivered. In those circumstances, the hidden fees are listed as "PROCESSING" or as "Shipping & Handling" fees.
- 17. The amount of the processing fee charged by Lens.com varies greatly and from transaction to transaction. The Plaintiff's processing fees were \$55.97, \$22.57 and \$5.21.
- 18. Numerous online complaints made by Lens.com customers describe processing fees that are over \$100. The below listed consumer complaints made to Complaints Board, an

online consumer complaint center, describe Lens.com's surprise processing fee. Each consumer referenced below contacted the Defendant's customer service line to complain about the processing fee and, accordingly, these complaints constitute notice and knowledge to the Defendant of the unfair and deceptive nature of their processing and other fees. The online complaints state in relevant part:

#### **Processing Fees**

Contact lenses were ordered for my child over the phone in February of 2021. The bill received did not break out the \$103 processing fee for an order of \$107 in contacts. The processing fee did not include shipping fees. This was discovered when trying to tally the order for reimbursement by the child's father months later and the lens cost did not add up to the total. When contacting the company the only adjustment offered was a \$7.95 shipping credit. The price of contacts was severely misrepresented due to the arbitrary and, per customer service, ever changing "processing fees". (Chobbs 1411 of US; August 27, 2021)

#### Lens.com review: Astronomical processing fee for contact lens order.

Customer since 2014... Last order placed 12/26/2020 and was charged processing fee of \$110.38... I immediately contacted the company and was simply told "that was their processing fee"... I escalated the issue as I have never paid more than \$35.96 for a processing fee (last order was 8/2020 and fee was \$29.54)... Continued to reach out via email and was finally told on Jan 3rd that my complaint was escalated to leadership... I reached out again on Jan 11, 12 and now this morning and have never been contacted back... I am now in the process of disputing charge with the credit card company... I have included the processing fees paid so you can see for yourself the ridiculous amount charged this last order:

4-2014 \$18.16 3-2015 \$26.47 8-2015 \$26.11 9-2016 \$35.96 9-2017 \$25.51 9-2018 \$25.99 12-2019 \$27.51 8-2020 \$29.54

12-2020 \$110.38

I understand I owe for the contacts but I refuse to pay that amount for processing! (juhnklo of US; January 15, 2021)

#### Extraordinarily high processing fee.

On July 7, 2023, I submitted an order and paid \$220 for 4 boxes of contacts. A bargain so I thought, because I would also get a \$75 rebate. Again, so I thought. Imagine my surprise when I see I was charged \$330 for my order due to a huge \$120 processing fee. Apparently the 'submit order' button appears before the processing fee (which requires you to scroll down past the submit order so you don't see the additional fee.) It doesn't appear on the consumers invoice on their site, but somehow when you questions it, the Customer service people are able to produce an invoice showing the fee. They claim it is automatically added 'by the system' and they cannot refund any portion of it. The processing fee was more than 50% of my total purchase and in reading the complaints about them, they take so long to issue the \$75 rebate that the expiration date is so close or past, rendering it useless as it is a visa gift card. These complaints date back to 2014 and nothing has changed. Below is the invoice AFTER the order was submitted. (K. Lennon, Rochdale, MA; July 18, 2023)

#### Lens.com added 85% to my order in "tax & fees"

intended to purchase 4 boxes of contact lenses at \$31.74 per box. They advertised \$9.24 per box if I ordered 8 boxes, which would have been \$73.92, instead of \$253. 92. When I clicked "checkout" the total was\$485.79! They added \$213.92 in "tax & fees", which is an additional 85%.

I clicked the "chat 24/7" line and the rep did everything possible to avoid explaining what "fees" were, since tax would be no more than \$22 in any state. I had to ask SIX TIMES, but he finally was forced to admit that "fees" were: "This includes calling your doctor on your behalf, doctor's fees since we need to verify your prescription, and handling and processing your order. If the customer has a valid prescription, there is no need to call the doctor. Tax would have been \$20 so the "rebate" which was applied to the order, tax and their undisclosed "fees" added 85% to the cost of the order. I told them that was fraud and they lost my business. (Gail Reznik of US; March 26, 2023)

#### Hidden taxes and fees

When I went to re-order my contacts at Lens.com I noticed advertised pricing and total cost didn't add up. I went to order my 8 boxes so I would get the \$160 RB. Listed at \$42.79 per box before RB (22.79 after RB) times the required 8 boxes = 342.32 (\$182.32 after RB)plus \$9.95 Shipping. This should make for a grand total of \$352.27( before RB). At check out total came up as \$566.19! Call Lens.com, spoke with a rep. I was told to go back to the shipping page, there they show a "Taxes & fees" of 213.92! Contacts are NOT taxable! They are a rip off company with miss leading and Illegal sales tactics. I've used them several times in the past and had not been charged these taxes & fees, I will no longer purchase from them and will

tell others of my bad experience. (Sharon McD of Levittown, US; March 1, 2023.

#### Lens.com review: Deceptive fees and rebate hurdles

Customer since 2014, but noticed a huge disparity in cost when initiating my most recent order. Without a rebate, they show \$72.24 per 90-lens box of 1-day lenses. Buy 8 boxes and the price (after rebate) is shown as \$35.99 and rebate as \$290. Great. The next screen in the checkout asks you to confirm where you want the boxes sent with a 'continue' button below it. When you accidentally scroll below that, you see a blowout of the order, with a whopping \$241.92 in taxes and fees that "are compensation for servicing your order". That's the only place they show the added taxes/fees. If you click 'continue' and approve where to send the boxes, you miss that, because the final checkout screen never shows that added charge in its summary of your order. ... This is deceptive. (eyecu of Seattle, US; January 12, 2023)

#### Ridiculous fee added without my knowledge

I just learned that they added a \$50 fee for for processing on an \$80 order. And the customer rep could not explain what the processing fee was for. What a ripoff! (thomassu of Centerville, US; December 5, 2022)

19. These consumer complaints describe in detail the repeated notice that Lens.com has received from consumers about its hidden processing fees and demonstrate its continued use of unfair and deceptive acts and practices to create revenue from junk fees.

#### Plaintiff's Transactions

- 20. Plaintiff's transactions with Lens.com highlight the deceptive nature of Lens.com's business practices. In August 2019, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$77.29 with free shipping. The subtotal that was charged to Plaintiff, however, was \$82.50, which included a \$5.21 undisclosed processing charge. The "processing fee" was only disclosed on the packing form delivered with the contact lenses.
- 21. Likewise, in May 2020, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses for a total price of \$141.48 with free shipping. The subtotal that was charged to Plaintiff, however, was

\$164.05, which thus included a \$22.57 undisclosed processing charge. The packing form received when the contact lenses were delivered indicated a charge of \$30.52 for "shipping & Handling."

- 22. Similarly, in April 2021, Plaintiff ordered three boxes of contact lenses with a total price of \$55.97 and free shipping. However, the subtotal charged to Plaintiff was \$111.97 and thus included an undisclosed processing charge of \$55.97. The one-page packing form received when the contact lenses were delivered did not itemize the transaction charges or disclose the amount of the processing fee.
- 23. Plaintiff ultimately complained to Lens.com about the processing charges and was told that the processing fee used to be disclosed on the website but had been removed, there had been recent changes to the website but the fee was still not disclosed, the failure to disclose the processing fee has been reported to IT by several other agents and that Lens.com was trying to get that back up on the website.

#### **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

24. Pursuant to Massachusetts Rule of Civil Procedure 23, Plaintiff brings this class action individually and on behalf of the following proposed class of persons, initially defined as:

All consumers who purchased contact lenses in Massachusetts and were charged a processing or handling fee with their contact lens order in the six years preceding the filing of this Complaint. (hereinafter the "Class").

The Class does not include Defendant; any affiliate, parent or subsidiary of Defendant; any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest; any officer, director or employee of Defendant; any successor or assign of Defendant; Plaintiff's counsel or anyone employed by Plaintiff's counsel in this action and their immediate families; any judge to whom this case is assigned and any member

of his/her immediate family and staff; governmental entities; or individuals who have personal injury claims as a result of conduct and/or defects alleged herein.

25. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend or supplement the Class descriptions with greater specificity or further division into subclasses or limitation to certain issues, after conducting discovery in this matter. Plaintiff also reserves the right to amend or supplement the proposed Class after conducting discovery in this matter.

#### **Rule 23 Class Certification Requirements**

- 26. Numerosity of the Class The members of the Class are so numerous that their individual joinder is impracticable. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that Lens.com processed tens or hundreds of thousands of contact lens orders and included an undisclosed processing fee with those orders. Adjudication of the claims in a class action context will provide substantial benefits to the parties and the Court.
- 27. Commonality and Predominance Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over questions affecting only individual Class members, as is required by Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(2) and (b)(3). These common questions include, but are not limited to:
  - a) whether Lens.com engaged in the conduct alleged herein;
  - b) whether Defendant failed to adequately disclose a processing and/or handling fee prior to the completion of an online order for contact lenses;
  - c) whether Defendant's undisclosed processing and/or handling fee inflated the product price;
  - d) whether Defendant's processing and/or handling fees exceeded actual costs and constituted a hidden profit for Defendant;
  - e) whether Plaintiff and Class Members suffered out-of-pocket losses as a result of Defendant's actions and/or inactions alleged herein, and if so, how much;

- f) whether Plaintiff and Class Members will suffer out-of-pocket losses as a result of Defendant's alleged actions and/or inactions alleged herein, and if so, how much.
- 28. **Typicality** The claims of the representative Plaintiff are typical of the claims of each member of the Class, thus satisfying Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3). Plaintiff, like all other members of the Class, have sustained damages arising from Lens.com's violations of the laws, as alleged herein. The representative Plaintiff and the members of the Class were and are similarly or identically harmed by the same unlawful, deceptive, unfair, systematic, and pervasive pattern of misconduct engaged in by Lens.com. Plaintiff's claims arise from the same practices and course of conduct that give rise to the claims of all other members of the Class.
- 29. Adequacy The representative Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class Members and have retained counsel who are experienced and competent trial lawyers in complex litigation and class action litigation, thus satisfying Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4). There are no material conflicts between the claims of the representative Plaintiff and the members of the Class that would make class certification inappropriate. Counsel for the Class will vigorously assert the claims of all Class members.
- 30. **Declaratory or Injunctive Relief** Lens.com has acted and refused to act on grounds generally applicable to Plaintiff and Members of the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief appropriate regarding the Class as a whole. Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2).
- 31. Superiority This suit may be maintained as a class action under Mass. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3), because a class action is superior to any other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this dispute and no unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in its management of this class action. The damages suffered by individual class members are small in comparison to the burden and expense of individually litigating each claim and based on the

complex and extensive litigation needed to address Spirit's conduct. Further, it would be virtually impossible for the Class Members to individually redress effectively the wrongs done to them. Even if Class Members themselves could afford such individual litigation, the court system could not. In addition, individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties and to the court system resulting from complex legal and factual issues of the case. Individualized litigation also presents a potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments. By contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties; allows the hearing of claims which might otherwise go unaddressed because of the relative expense of bringing individual lawsuits; and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economics of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

32. Ascertainability: Upon information and belief, the precise number of Class Members may be ascertained from Lens.com's records. Plaintiff contemplates the eventual issuance of notice to the proposed Class members setting forth the nature of the instant action. Upon information and belief, Class members may be notified of this action by recognized, Court approved notice dissemination methods, which may include U.S. mail, electronic mail, Internet postings, social media, and published notices, in addition to Lens.com's own business records.

#### COUNT I BREACH OF CONTRACT

- 33. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 34. Plaintiff's and other Class members' purchase of contact lenses constituted a contract between them and Lens.com, namely through the terms and conditions on the Lens.com

site. The terms and conditions do not mention a processing charge for online orders of contact lenses.

- 35. Plaintiff and the Class Members performed all requirements under their agreements with Lens.com, namely the payment of the amount charged by Lens.com for the order.
- 36. Lens.com breached its agreement with Plaintiff and the Class Members when it charged a hidden processing fee in connection with the contact lens orders.
- 37. Plaintiff and members of the Class have suffered an injury through the payment of the processing fee.
- 38. Plaintiff and Class members are therefore entitled to all incidental, consequential, and indirect damages resulting from Lens.com's breach of contract. Lens.com's breach caused damages to Plaintiff and the Class Members.
- 39. Plaintiff and the Class Members seek to recover all permitted damages and their attorneys' fees caused by Defendant's breach.

# COUNT II BREACH OF THE DUTY OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING

- 40. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 41. The Defendant had an obligation to exercise of duty of good faith and fair dealing when transacting business with Plaintiff and the Class.
- 42. The Plaintiff and the Class made purchases at Lens.com's online website. Lens.com advertised, disclosed and charged a specific price for each contact lens purchase. It claimed that it had the lowest contact lens prices.

- 43. However, the Defendant, as matter a pattern and practice, assessed hidden junk fees to consumer's transaction which it labeled as processing and/or handling fees. These fees were not described on the Defendant's website or as part of the sale.
  - 44. In addition, these junk fees varied from transaction to transaction.
- 45. The junk fees were charged to Plaintiff's credit and debit cards, thereby driving up the actual costs of their contact lens purchases.
- 46. Lens.com used these hidden fees, which do not purport to approximate actual expenses incurred, as a hidden profit center. Not including these hidden fees in the product price allowed Lens.com to falsely claim that it had the lowest prices.
- 47. Lens.com's pattern and practice of charging its consumers hidden junk fees in its transactions constituted a breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing it owed to consumers as part of the transactions.
- 48. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendant's acts and/or omissions, the Plaintiff and the Class suffered damages.

#### COUNT III <u>UNJUST ENRICHMENT</u>

- 49. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23 as though fully stated herein.
- 50. Plaintiff and the Class Members conferred substantial benefits on Lens.com by purchasing contact lenses and by paying processing charges to Lens.com.
- 51. Lens.com knowingly and willingly accepted and enjoyed those benefits.

  Lens.com's retention of these benefits is inequitable and would be against good conscience
- 52. As a direct and proximate cause of Lens.com's unjust enrichment, Plaintiff and the Class Members are entitled to restitution, attorneys' fees, costs and interest.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, pray for a judgment against Defendant as follows:

- a. For an order certifying the Class, appointing Plaintiff as Representative of the Class, and appointing the law firm representing Plaintiff as counsel for the Class;
- b. For compensatory damages and/or restitution or refund of all funds acquired by Lens.com from Plaintiff and the Class Members as a result of the Company's unlawful, unfair, deceptive and unconscionable practices described herein in an amount to be proven at trial;
- c. For compensatory damages caused by Lens.com's breach of contract with Plaintiff and the Class Members to the extent permitted by law in an amount to be proven at trial;
  - d. Both pre-and post-judgment interest on any amounts awarded;
  - e. Payment of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by law;
  - f. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

The Plaintiff requests a trial by jury on all claims.

On behalf of the Plaintiff and the Putative Class,

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive North Dartmouth, MA 02747 (508) 998-0800 (508) 998-0919 (fax) cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET	DOCKET NO(S) B.L.S.	Trial Court Of Massachusetts Superior Court Department County: SUFFOLK
Angela Gonneville, indiv. similarly situated,	and on behallf of all others	DEFENDANT(S) Lens.com, Inc.
ATTORNEY, FIRM NAME, ADDRESS AND TE Carlin J. Phillips, BBO 56 GARCIA, P.C.,13 Ventur 02747; 508-998-0800; cp	31916, PHILLIPS &	ATTORNEY (if known)
Origin Code Original Complaint BK1		
TYPE OF ACTION AND TRACK DE		TYPE OF ACTION (specify) TRACK IS THIS A JURY CASE? *
BKI Consume	r Class Action	kg
The following is a full and detailed s	tatement of the facts on which plaintiff relie	es to determine eligibility in to The Business Litigation Session.
company that sells conta contact lens orders. Mor to online transactions wh numerous complaints fro continued to charge consconsumers while adding hide or mask the fees, the comparison shop based or the comparison of the compari	ot lenses at what it claims are particularly, Lens.com add ich, in the plaintiff's case, value the Plaintiff and other consumers these fees in online to little to no value and are ofte ereby inflating the purchase on price. The nature, complete	sclosed junk fees that Lens.com, an online e the lowest prices, charges as part of online s an undisclosed and non-itemized processing fee ried from \$55.97 to \$22.57 to \$5.21. Despite sumers about undisclosed fees, Lens.com ransactions. Per the FTC, junk fees inflate costs to n imposed on captive consumers by using tricks to price and frustrating a consumer's ability to exity, uniformity and scope of the issue surrounding online transaction process warrants acceptance in

 ${}^{\star}\,A\,Special\,Tracking\,Order\,shall\,be\,created\,by\,the\,Presiding\,Justice\,of\,the\,Business\,Litigation\,Session\,at\,the\,Rule\,16\,Conference.$ 

PLEASE IDENTIFY, BY CASE NUMBER, NAME AND COUNTY, ANY RELATED ACTION PENDING IN THE SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT.

"I hereby certify that I have complied with the requirements of Rule 5 of the Supreme Judicial Court Uniform Rules on Dispute Resolution (SJC Rule 1:18) requiring that I provide my clients with information about court-connected dispute resultations of the various methods." Signature of Attorney of Record

DATE:

perior court - Surroux Case 1:24-24-111170 Spocument 1 Filed 04/25/24 Page 18/00/26/41 sket Number 2484CV00531

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts County of Suffolk The Superior Court – Business Litigation Session

CIVIL DOCKET#: 2484CV00531-BLS2

Notice Sent

Case: Gonneville v. Lens.com, Inc.

#### NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION

This matter has been accepted into the Suffolk Business Litigation Session. It has been assigned to BLS2.

Hereafter, as shown above, all parties must include the initials "BLS2" at the end of the docket number on all filings.

Counsel for the plaintiff(s) is hereby advised that within seven (7) days of the filing of an appearance, answer, motion or other response to the complaint by or on behalf of the defendant(s) which has been served with process within the time limitation of Mass. R. Civ. P. 4(j), or such other time as may be modified by the Court, he or she shall send notice thereof to the appropriate BLS Session Clerk at Suffolk Superior Court, Three Pemberton Square. Boston, MA 02108.

Upon receipt of such notice, the Court will issue a Notice of Initial Rule 16 Conference for purposes of meeting with all counsel. Before the Rule 16 Conference, counsel shall discuss with their clients and with opposing counsel whether the parties will participate in the BLS Project on Discovery (counsel are directed to www.mass.gov/superior-court-business-litigation-session for description of the Project). Counsel may indicate their respective client's participation by completing, filing, and serving the attached form. If by the date of the initial Rule 16 Conference, not all parties have given notice of their participation, counsel shall be prepared to discuss at that conference whether their clients will participate in the Project.

The Court requests that plaintiff's counsel serve on opposing parties a copy of this notice and the attached form.

Dated: February 26, 2024

's Kenneth W. Salinger

Kenneth W. Salinger

Justice of the Superior Court &

Administrative Justice of the Business Litigation Session

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts County of Suffolk The Superior Court – Business Litigation Session

	C	CIVIL DOCKET#:
Case:	and the state of t	
Project in January, 2010. This project into the BLS and for cases which have conference. Counsel should be preparanagement conference. For a detail to the Trial Court home page at: www.	t is available not previously to disconding to disconding the led copy of v.mass.gov	on Session began implementing a Discovery le on a voluntary basis for all new cases accepted iously had an initial case management russ the project with the Court at the initial case if the BLS Discovery Project, counsel are directed /superior-court-business-litigation-session) project, that party's counsel should so indicate ssion clerk.
		willing to participate in the Discovery Project.
Case Name		Market and the second of the s
Docket Number CIVIL DOCI	CET#;	
Counsel For	The second secon	Date
Firm Name and Address:		
Please complete this form and return	it to:	
Assistant Clerk - BLS1 BLS1, Room 1309 3 Pemberton Square Boston, MA 02108	OR	Assistant Clerk - BLS2 BLS2, Room 1017 3 Pemberton Square Boston, MA 02108

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

Case: 2484CV00531-BLS2	Court: Suffolk Superior Civil Court	County: Job: 10757417 (225				
Plaintiff / Petitioner: Angela Gonneville		Defendant / Respondent: Lens.com, Inc.				
Received by: One Legal, an InfoTrack Company		For: Phillips Garcia Law				
To be served upon: Lens.com, Inc.						

Recipient Name:

Karen Scott

Recipient Address:

Business: 4730 5 Fort Apache Rd Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147

Manner of Service: Business Serve, Mar 28, 2024, 8:59 am PDT

Documents:

Summons, Class Action Complaint, Civil Action Cover Sheet, Notice of Acceptance into Business Litigation Session

(BLS2), Demand Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 93A Section 9

#### Diligence / Comments:

1) Successful Attempt: Mar 28, 2024, 8:59 am PDT at Business: 4730 S Fort Apache Rd Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89147 received by Karen Scott. Age: 55-60; Ethnicity: African American; Gender: Female; Weight: 150; Height: 5'4"; Hair: Black; Eyes: Black; Other: Served registered agent authorized except Documents, Karen Scott;

#### Statement(s):

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Reggie Mitchell

03/29/2024

Date

Registration: R-2019-12597

InfoTrack US, Inc. - P000634 1400 N McDowell Blvd, Suite 300 Petaluma, CA 94954 800-938-8815

#### **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

SUFFOLK, SS	SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION
ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	C.A. NO. 2484CV00531-BLS2
Plaintiff,	
v. )	
LENS.COM, INC.,	
Defendant. )	

#### ASSENTED TO MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO THE COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Angela Gonneville ("Plaintiff" or "Gonneville"), pursuant to Massachusetts Rule of Civil Procedure 6(b), hereby files this Stipulated Motion for Extension of Time to Respond to the above-captioned Class Action Complaint and, in support, states:

- 1. Plaintiff filed the Class Action Complaint on February 23, 2024.
- 2. Defendant was served with the Complaint on March 28, 2024, making its response due on April 17, 2024.
- 3. The Parties have agreed to extend the deadline for Defendant to respond to the Complaint to May 17, 2024.
- 4. This agreed request for an extension of time is made in good faith and not for purposes of delay. Given the early stage of this case, no party will be prejudiced by the request.

WHEREFORE, the Parties respectfully request that the Court enter an Order extending

the deadline for Defendant to respond to Plaintiff's Complaint to May 17, 2024.

DATED: April 3, 2024.

#### RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

On behalf of the Plaintiff,

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin J. Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel. (508) 998-0800; Fax (508) 998-0919 cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

On behalf of the Defendant,

/s/ Jed H. Hansen

Jed H. Hansen Thorpe North & Western, LLP 175 South Main Street, Suite 900 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 801-566-6633 hansen@tnw.com

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Plaintiff's counsel, Carlin J. Phillips, hereby certifies that a copy of this document was served via email on April 4, 2024, to all counsel of record:

Jed H. Hansen Thorpe North & Western, LLP 175 South Main Street, Suite 900 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 801-566-6633 hansen@tnw.com

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin J. Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel. (508) 998-0800; Fax (508) 998-0919 cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

ML	NOTIFY
COMMONWEAL	LTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
SUFFOLK, SS	SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION
ANGELA GONNEVILLE, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated	) C.A. NO. 2484CV00531-BLS2 d, )
Plaintiff,	
v.   1	)
LENS.COM, INC.,	)
Defendant.	<u> </u>
	YOU FOR EVERNISION OF THE
	ION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME D TO THE COMPLAINT
Plaintiff Angela Gonneville ("Plain	ntiff' or "Gonneville"), pursuant to Massachusetts Ru
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of Civil Procedure 6(b), hereby files this S	
of Civil Procedure 6(b), hereby files this S the above-captioned Class Action Compla	tipulated Motion for Extension of Time to Respond t
	tipulated Motion for Extension of Time to Respond tint and, in support, states:
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the above-captioned Class Action Compla  1. Plaintiff filed the Class Action Cor  2. Defendant was served with the Cor	int and, in support, states:  mplaint on February 23, 2024.
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the deadline for Defendant to respond to Plaintiff's Complaint to May 17, 2024.

DATED: April 3, 2024.

#### RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

On behalf of the Plaintiff,

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin J. Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel. (508) 998-0800; Fax (508) 998-0919 cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

On behalf of the Defendant,

/s/ Jed H. Hansen

Jed H. Hansen
Thorpe North & Western, LLP
175 South Main Street, Suite 900
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
801-566-6633
hansen@tnw.com

ocket Number 2484CV00531

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Plaintiff's counsel, Carlin J. Phillips, hereby certifies that a copy of this document was served via email on April 4, 2024, to all counsel of record:

Jed H. Hansen
Thorpe North & Western, LLP
175 South Main Street, Suite 900
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
801-566-6633
hansen@tnw.com

/s/ Carlin J. Phillips

Carlin J. Phillips, BBO# 561916 Andrew J. Garcia, BBO# 559084 PHILLIPS & GARCIA, P.C. 13 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel. (508) 998-0800; Fax (508) 998-0919 cphillips@phillipsgarcia.com

#### 

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS	(a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDAN	DEFENDANTS				
Angela Gonney	ville		Lens.com, II	nc.				
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff B	ristol	County of Reside	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant				
(E	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CAS	SES)	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Number	•)	Attorneys (If Known)					
Carlin Phillips, Phillips & Garcia PC, 13 Ventura Dr.,			Theodore J.	Theodore J. Folkman, Rubin and Rudman LLP, 53 State				
	th, MA 02747, (508) 9				109, (617) 330-71			
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in C	Ine Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF (For Diversity Cases Of			Place an "X" in and One Box for		
U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government N	ot a Party)	Citizen of This State	PTF	DEF  1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In T		PTF 4	DEF 4
2 U.S. Government Defendant	* 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship	o of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2	2 Incorporated and Business In A		<u> </u>	<b>*</b> 5
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3	3 Foreign Nation		6	<u></u> 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			ECONOMIC DESIGNATAL C		k here for: Nature of S BANKRUPTCY		scription STATUT	
CONTRACT  110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJUR	FORFEITURE/PENALT Y 625 Drug Related Seizure		122 Appeal 28 USC 158	375 False		
120 Marine 130 Miller Act	310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product	365 Personal Injury - Product Liability	of Property 21 USC 8		423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	376 Qui Ta 3729(i 400 State I	am (31 US) a))	С
140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability 320 Assault, Libel &	367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical			INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS	410 Antitro		mment
& Enforcement of Judgmen		Personal Injury Product Liability		_	320 Copyrights	430 Banks 450 Comm		ing
152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability [	368 Asbestos Personal			330 Patent 335 Patent - Abbreviated	460 Depor	tation	
Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)	340 Marine 345 Marine Product	Injury Product Liability			New Drug Application	470 Racket	teer Influer t Organiza	
153 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability	PERSONAL PROPER	TY LABOR	-	340 Trademark 380 Defend Trade Secrets	480 Consu	_	
of Veteran's Benefits	350 Motor Vehicle	370 Other Fraud	710 Fair Labor Standards	<b></b> )	Act of 2016		SC 1681 or	
160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract	355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal	Act 720 Labor/Management		SOCIAL SECURITY	485 Teleph	ione Consu	umer
195 Contract Product Liability	360 Other Personal	Property Damage	Relations		361 HIA (1395ff)	490 Cable/		
196 Franchise	Injury [	385 Property Damage	740 Railway Labor Act		362 Black Lung (923)	850 Securi		nodities/
	362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	Product Liability	751 Family and Medical Leave Act		363 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 364 SSID Title XVI	Excha 890 Other	-	Actions
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITION			365 RSI (405(g))	891 Agricu		
210 Land Condemnation	440 Other Civil Rights	Habeas Corpus:	791 Employee Retirement	_	,05 1101 ( 105 (B))	893 Enviro		
220 Foreclosure	441 Voting	463 Alien Detainee	Income Security Act		EDERAL TAX SUITS	895 Freedo	m of Infor	mation
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	442 Employment	510 Motions to Vacate		1 8	370 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	Act		
240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability	Accommodations	Sentence 530 General			or Defendant) 371 IRS—Third Party	896 Arbitra 899 Admin		rocedure
290 All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities -	535 Death Penalty	IMMIGRATION		26 USC 7609		view or A	
	Employment	Other:	462 Naturalization Applica	ation			y Decision	
	Other 446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	540 Mandamus & Othe 550 Civil Rights	er 465 Other Immigration Actions			950 Consti		10
	448 Education	555 Prison Condition	Actions			State 5	latuics	
		560 Civil Detaince -						
		Conditions of Confinement						
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" i	in One Box Only)	Commenten						
1 Original #2 Re	moved from 3 R	Remanded from ppellate Court	Reopened And	nsferred f			Multidis Litigatio Direct F	on -
	Cite the U.S. Civil Stat	ute under which you ar	e filing (Do not cite jurisdictional	ecify) I statutes u			DHECK F	110
THE CATION ON A CONT.	28 USC 1332							
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	Brief description of cat							
		s action for breach of co	ontract and unjust enrichment					
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	UNDER RULE 23	S A CLASS ACTION , F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$ restitution & damages		JURY DEMAND:		complai	
VIII. RELATED CASI	(See instructions):	JUDGE		1	DOCKET NUMBER			
DATE			TORNEY OF RECORD					_
4/25/2024		/s/ Theodore J. Folki						
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#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
  - (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
  - (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

  United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

  Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

  Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.
  - Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.
  - Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
  - Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
  - Multidistrict Litigation Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407
  - Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.

    PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

  Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.

  Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related cases, if any. If there are related cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

### perior Court - Suffolk Case Case Case - 1 v 2 4 1 d J - 1 PBS Document 5 - 6 File 1 6 4 J 2 V 2 4 2 4 Pagg 2 4 1 off 1 4 1

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

1.	Title of case (na	me of first party on each side only) Gonneville v. Lens.com, Inc.
2.	Category in which	ch the case belongs based upon the numbered nature of suit code listed on the civil cover sheet. (See local
	I.	460 400 440 444 525 920* 925* 950 990 904 902 B 22 BEGARDI ESS OF NATURE OF SUIT
		160, 400, 410, 441, 535, 830*, 835*, 850, 880, 891, 893, R.23, REGARDLESS OF NATURE OF SUIT.
	II.	110, 130, 190, 196, 370, 375, 376, 440, 442, 443, 445, 446, 448, 470, 751, 820*, 840*, 895, 896, 899.
	III.	120, 140, 150, 151, 152, 153, 195, 210, 220, 230, 240, 245, 290, 310, 315, 320, 330, 340, 345, 350, 355, 360, 362, 365, 367, 368, 371, 380, 385, 422, 423, 430, 450, 460, 462, 463, 465, 480, 485, 490, 510, 530, 540, 550, 555, 560, 625, 690, 710, 720, 740, 790, 791, 861-865, 870, 871, 890, 950.  *Also complete AO 120 or AO 121. for patent, trademark or copyright cases.
3.		r, if any, of related cases. (See local rule 40.1(g)). If more than one prior related case has been filed in this idicate the title and number of the first filed case in this court.
4.	Has a prior actio	on between the same parties and based on the same claim ever bee <u>n file</u> d in this court?
		YES NO
5.	Does the compla §2403)	aint in this case question the constitutionality of an act of congress affecting the public interest? (See 28 USC
	If so, is the U.S.A	YES NO
		YES NO
6.	Is this case requ	ired to be heard and determined by a district court of three judges pursuant to title 28 USC §2284?  YES NO
7.		ries in this action, excluding governmental agencies of the United States and the Commonwealth of "governmental agencies"), residing in Massachusetts reside in the same division? - (See Local Rule 40.1(d)).  YES  NO
	A.	If yes, in which divisi <u>on do all</u> of the non-governmental <u>parti</u> es reside?
		Eastern Division Central Division Western Division
	В.	If no, in which division do the majority of the plaintiffs or the only parties, excluding governmental agencies, residing in Massachusetts reside?
		Eastern Division Central Division Western Division
8.	_	of Removal - are there any motions pending in the state court requiring the attention of this Court? (If yes, e sheet identifying the motions)  YES  NO
(PLF	EASE TYPE OR PE	RINT)
		Theodore J. Folkman
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